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APRIL 26 — MAY 2, 2012

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NEWS & NOTES

News in Brief

• **Continued good news in home sales:** Sales in the first quarter of this year outpaced first-quarter sales last year by 17 percent — home sales’ highest level since 2007. Low prices, low interest rates, little bad weather and a relatively large inventory opened the door for 2,223 homes to be sold in the first three months of this year, compared with 1,903 during the first quarter last year, according to a press release from the New Hampshire Association of Realtors. Still, median home prices continue to drop. Prices fell nearly 5 percent from \$197,500 in the first quarter of last year to \$188,000 in the same period this year. “This is about supply and demand, and it’s about home prices continuing to adjust to a market that has been favoring buyers for several years now,” said NHAR President John Rice, a veteran of the real estate industry and an agent with Tate & Foss Sotheby’s International Realty in Rye. Home sales were ahead of last year’s pace by 17 percent just in March as well, with 896 homes sold last month compared to 769 homes sold in March 2011. Each of the state’s 10 counties saw unit sales increases in the first quarter, including a 65-percent gain in Sullivan County, a 42-percent gain in Coos County, a 31-percent jump in Cheshire County and an 18-percent jump in Hillsborough County, the release said. Only Merrimack and Coos counties showed first quarter median price increases. Rice said he thought the surge in sales is likely to mean the beginning of the end of dropping prices. “That’s just fundamental, free market principles,” he said. “More sales equals less inventory, which eventually equals higher prices. In future years we’ll look back and be able to pinpoint when prices stabilized. We can’t know that point while we’re going through it, but if this pace keeps up, I can’t imagine we’re too far from it right now.”

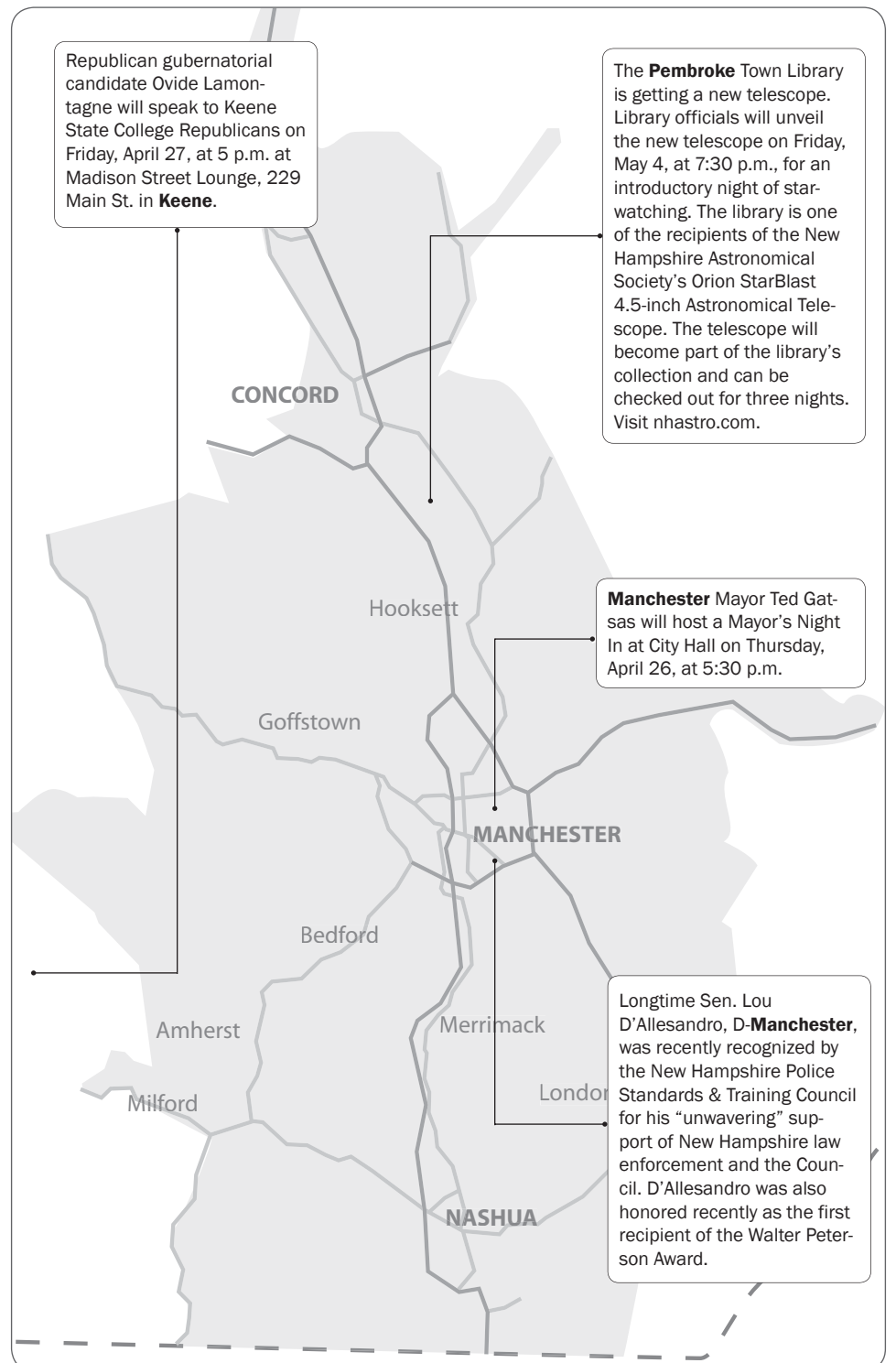
• **Lots of open houses; affordability is good:** Realtors from coast to coast and in New Hampshire communities will spend the week-end of Saturday, April 28, and Sunday, April 29, kicking off the home-buying season with the Realtor Nationwide Open House Week-end. Earlier this year, the National Association of Realtors reported housing affordability conditions had reached the highest level since record-keeping began in 1970. The housing affordability index is based on the relationship between the median home price, median family income and the average mortgage interest rate, the release said. The index reached 206.1 in January, the first time the index had ever broken the 200 mark. The higher the index, the greater the household purchasing power. This means the typical family has about double the income needed to purchase a median-priced home. “Home ownership matters to individuals, families, communities and our nation’s economy,” Rice said. “The housing market plays a vital role in both the long- and short-term health of this country. Home ownership is not just an investment in one particular family’s future; it’s an investment in the future of generations to come.”

• **RNC backs plan for NH to keep first primary:** New Hampshire’s first-in-the-nation primary got a boost from the Republican National Committee. A panel of Rules Com-

mittee members backed a New Hampshire plan that would allow the Granite State to keep its delegates even if it has to move its primary date to preserve its first-in-the-nation status. When Florida moved up its primary this year, it forced several other states to adjust on the fly, including New Hampshire. Doing so though, caused states to forfeit some of their delegates. New Hampshire GOP Chairman Wayne MacDonald said National Committeewoman Phyllis Woods and National Committeeman Steve Duprey were successful in preserving the state’s historic primary. “Preserving our First-in-the-Nation primary is our top priority, and this successful effort will help our state maintain this historic position while also preserving our delegates to the national convention,” MacDonald said in a statement. “I’d like to thank Phyllis and Steve for their hard work and perseverance in keeping our state’s primary first and for this initiative to make sure we have as strong a voice as possible to the RNC.”

• **Shaheen supporting grants for domestic violence services:** U.S. Sen. Jeanne Shaheen is pushing for Congress to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act. Last week, Shaheen toured the Strafford County Family Justice Center in Rochester. The Act has provided an avenue for funding for services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Unless Congress reauthorizes the Act before the end of the federal fiscal year in September, federal grants to states and local service providers are at risk, according to a Shaheen press release. “Helping women and families cope with domestic violence is simply too important an issue for political games,” Shaheen said. “The Violence Against Women Act is a long-running, successful federal program that has historically had strong bipartisan support. We must reauthorize it so that victims of domestic violence in New Hampshire and across the country can continue to benefit from these essential services.” According to the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence’s 2011 statistics, New Hampshire experienced a 3-percent increase in the number of people who turned to the Coalition’s member programs. That increase includes a 4.3-percent increase for people seeking services for domestic violence. Visit www.nhcadsv.org. According to the Coalition, nearly one in four women in the state has been sexually assaulted or at least a third of women have been the victim of a physical assault by an intimate partner.

• **Lynch nominates economic advisors:** Gov. John Lynch recently made his nominations for the New Hampshire Economic Development Advisory Council, which was established to help in planning and measuring the efforts of the Division of Economic Development, as well as to advise it of trends in business and industry. Lynch appointed Joe Casey of Rochester as the organized labor representative on the Council. Casey has been the business manager for Local Union #490 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers for 10 years. Lynch also nominated Paula Newton of Greenland, who is the president of the New Hampshire BioMedical Council, and Eric Proulx, the general manager of the Tanger Outlet Center in Tilton. He also nom-



inated Sarah Smith, a forest industry specialist at the University of New Hampshire, to represent forest-based products interests.

• **Lamb to run in 2nd District:** Democrat Robert Lamb recently announced he would run for Senate in New Hampshire’s 2nd District. “Robert Lamb will focus on supporting New Hampshire businesses’ efforts to create jobs and build the economy,” said Ray Buckley, state Democratic Party chairman, in a statement. “Unlike the Tea Party candidates that Bill O’Brien’s Republican Party is fielding, Democratic candidates are continuing to fight for public education, ensuring strong consumer protections, protecting Medicare and preserving access to health care for women across the state.” Sen. Jeanie Forrester, R-Meredith, currently holds the 2nd District seat. Forrester announced last week she would seek reelection.

• **Old Man plaza set for summer finish:** The Old Man of the Mountain Profile Plaza in Franconia Notch is expected to be completed this summer. It was nine years ago that the Old Man collapsed. The new Profile Pla-

za, which was dedicated last June and which was created with entirely private donations, includes seven profilers allowing visitors to view the image of the Old Man on the back side of Cannon Mountain. The plaza is located on the shore of Profile Lake and it is edged by granite benches and includes hundreds of paver stones engraved with memories and names from people who loved the Old Man, according to an organization press release. The plan is to complete landscaping this summer and to install interpretive signs about the history of the Old Man. One of the four turnbuckles that helped stabilize the Old Man for decades was recovered last fall and will be incorporated into the plaza. In September, the Old Man Legacy Fund will relocate the boulder and plaque noting the dedication of Franconia Notch to the state’s veterans to a more prominent location with the plaza. The Notch was preserved as a memorial to veterans in September 1928. Visit www.nholdman.org.

• **NH joins Welcoming America:** New Hampshire recently joined the Welcoming America initiative. Twenty-two other states

take part in the national, grassroots-driven collaborative that works to promote mutual respect and cooperation between foreign-born and native-born Americans. The initiative is designed to create an atmosphere in which immigrants are more likely to integrate into their new communities and neighborhoods, said Eva Castillo-Turgeon, New Hampshire's Welcoming America organizer, in an organization press release. The Granite State initiative

City Hall reduces energy use

RGGI funds used to make buildings more efficient

By Jeff Mucciarone
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Manchester City Hall was just one of the buildings in New Hampshire to benefit from a relatively new Pay for Performance program, which utilizes funds through the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

Through energy-saving renovations, the energy consumption of City Hall went down by 17 percent, said Tom Rooney, technical director of the Portsmouth company TRC Energy Services, which administers the Pay for Performance program. The Public Utilities Commission authorized the use of \$5 million of RGGI funds for the program.

"What we do is we identify good energy-efficiency projects in commercial buildings around the state and then push them toward being built," Rooney said.

The program offers financial incentives intended to get projects moving. It provides incentives for energy-efficiency renovations to commercial, industrial and manufacturing buildings. That includes municipal buildings, such as City Hall, and school buildings. Each project can receive as much as \$340,000. The incentives can't exceed more than half the cost of the project. Proposed projects must result in saving at least 15 percent on energy costs.

"They're pretty substantial incentives," Rooney said. "They are based on savings. ... Incentives are directly tied to the amount of savings either in electricity, [kilowatt hours] or in fossil fuels [BTU]."

The City Hall project in Manchester cost \$156,647 and received financial incentives through Pay for Performance amounting to nearly \$47,000. According to Pay for Performance, the renovations are saving the city \$20,352 annually. The project entailed converting an old steam boiler system to a high-efficiency condensing water system, upgrading to high-efficiency lighting, a re-balancing and optimization of the ventilation system, and installing occupancy controls on an air handling unit.

The idea is that building owners would go a little deeper with this program, would

Cats gone wild

Rescue League has feral felines for adoption

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

It's not going to be cuddly. It's not going to be particularly friendly. In fact, it might not even come inside the house. But on the other hand, it would be pretty low maintenance.

With staff of the Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire (www.rescueleague.org) in Bedford seeing an uptick in the number of feral cats they've taken in recently, they'd like people to consider adopting a feral cat

was organized by the New Hampshire Alliance for Immigrants and Refugees. "The basic idea is to foster an atmosphere in which we accept and appreciate the other," Castillo-Turgeon said. Welcoming New Hampshire connects old traditions and the experiences of newcomers through conversations, coffee hours, family gatherings, lectures, sports events and school presentations, the release said. Visit www.welcomingamerica.org.

choose to make some more extensive and comprehensive renovations, Rooney said, rather than just replacing, say, old lights with the similar, newer version.

"We're looking at how much energy can be saved at a given location regardless of the equipment that's involved," Rooney said.

TRC started by establishing a network of professionals in the state who are qualified to do these types of renovations. That network now includes 28 firms. TRC gives presentations about the program to various industry groups, and it counts on its partners to spread awareness through word of mouth, Rooney said.

"It's a little bit new to the New Hampshire market, so it took a little bit of time for both partners and building owners to become aware of it and to get comfortable with it," Rooney said. "We're seeing more activity both on the partners' end and with building owners."

The program is designed for bigger facilities. Facilities must meet an electrical demand of more than 100 kilowatt hours or a thermal consumption of more than 1,000 MMBTUs — not huge facilities, but larger than small businesses, Rooney said.

TRC is still getting the word out to let building owners know these funds are available. There are other similar programs, but this is a little different since it's a statewide program and it's not directly tied to any particular utility service. The savings can be tied to any type of fuel. Interest has picked up in the last three to four months, Rooney said.

"Everyone is starting to understand how it works and that it's available," Rooney said.

TRC reviews applications to make sure projects are eligible, and that includes validating projected savings.

"Obviously, we want to be pretty confident that they're real," Rooney said.

Rooney has seen an increased demand for gut rehab jobs, such as converting mill buildings into office space or residential units.

"We're looking at letting those projects in," Rooney said.

Visit www.nhp4p.com.

— just don't expect it to make a good snuggle buddy on the couch.

"It's definitely something that's on the rise for the shelter," said Danielle Hebert, director of adoptions at the Rescue League.

The Rescue League has already dealt with four feral cats coming into the shelter this year. Those cats are available for adoption. Four cats might not sound like a lot, but the busy season for shelters is just arriving. Hebert expects more and more cases throughout the spring, summer and fall.

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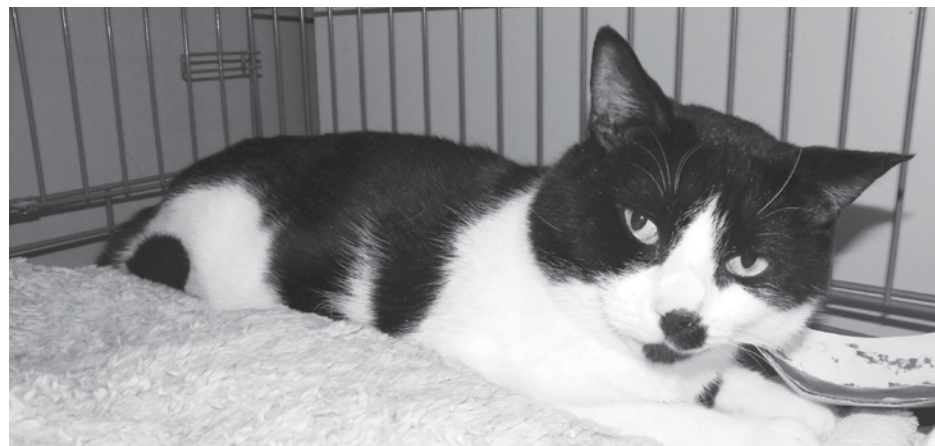
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The Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire is asking people to consider adopting a feral cat. Courtesy photo.

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"I would definitely say it's a problem," Hebert said. "There are some groups out there that all they do is work with feral cats. They work with families who have feral cats on their property."

Feral cats are un-socialized. They've been outside, essentially in the wild, since they were kittens. They might be part of several generations of cats living off the land. They aren't used to human interactions. They don't want to be friendly to people. But they aren't entirely wild animals — they still need some help. Just not much. These cats are adaptable and resilient and will thrive in an outdoor structure such as a barn, garage or workshop. Once you take in a feral cat, you simply need to put out food and water.

Controlling the rodent population is probably the biggest benefit the Rescue League hears about feral cats. But some people want a low-maintenance companion on their property. They don't necessarily want to provide for a needy animal, and they're OK with the animal just being present, Hebert said. For those considering adoption, Hebert suggested taking in two feral cats. It's no extra work for the owner but the cats tend to thrive in pairs — they appreciate the companionship.

"You're not looking at a lot of concerns that you might have with house cats," Hebert said. "Issues like scratching the furniture, those issues are taken away. A lot of the reasons people are surrendering cats you don't have to worry about...."

In a lot of cases, people find they have feral cats on their property and they feel they can't care for them. Or someone moves out and the new resident doesn't want the cats on his or her property. That's how the Rescue League gets involved, Hebert said.

Part of the problem for feral cats is that they've never been handled before. When they come into the shelter, the experience is much more stressful for them than it would be for a domestic cat. Cages upon cages of cats line the walls of animal shelters, and a cage is not a welcoming place for a feral cat.

"It's just not a very happy environment for them," Hebert said. "They tend to be very stressed." For that reason, Hebert said the Rescue League likes to move the cats to a new home as quickly as possible.

It's not always the easiest sell. People who come to shelters often want an animal they can cuddle with. Feral cats don't fit that bill.

"It is difficult to find families who are willing to take them on," Hebert said. "Most people who are adopting a cat want one that is friendly, that you can touch at least periodically. You will probably never touch a feral cat once it is on your property."

But the cats have their benefits. One is rodent control. Shelters advocate for the ani-

mals as barn cats. They push people with existing structures, like barns, on their property to consider taking them in. All the feral cats at the Rescue League — all animals for that matter — leave the shelter spayed or neutered, and with a full slate of vaccinations. The feral cats at the Animal Rescue League have also tested negative for feline AIDS and leukemia.

"The longer you have the cat on your property, the more comfortable it will become," Hebert said. "But it's probably never going to be an animal that comes indoors and [will] be a pet to you."

When people first take the cat home, the Rescue League asks people to keep the animal in a barn, or an enclosed area for a period of at least two weeks. The shelter will loan people large dog crates. That way, the cat becomes accustomed to the daily sounds and smells of the property. It will get used to the new owner feeding it and will begin to associate the property with home, Hebert said.

"From there, they can pretty much find their own way," Hebert said.

Even if an owner already owns a friendly, domesticated cat, he can still take in a feral cat. The owner would just want to make it a gradual transition. Don't just plop the feral cat down next to the family cat. But typically, domesticated cats and feral cats can coexist without issue, Hebert said.

When a cat is moved to a new property, it takes a little while for the cat to become comfortable and get the lay of the land. Hebert said she'd heard estimates that of cats that are just plunked down somewhere new, only about 50 percent survive.

Leaving food out for the cat could potentially draw in other wildlife, so that's something to consider.

Hebert said the cat itself is usually enough of a deterrent to other wildlife, but it's a good idea to leave the food, say, up on a shelf in the barn where only the cat knows where it is and can get to it. Being feral cats, the animals will stake out a territory that they will defend from other critters.

Certainly for homes with small children, owners would want to educate their children not to chase the cats. It's unlikely the cats would be any danger to small children. They'd run away if approached. Like other animals, they would fight back if cornered or trapped, Hebert said.

If someone spots a cat with one ear cropped, that is typically a universal signal the cat has been altered and that it belongs to somebody, Hebert said.

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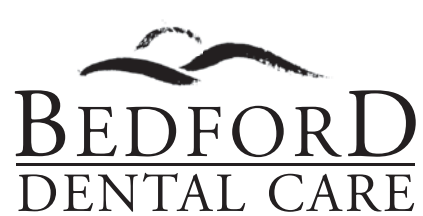
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HIPPO POLITICS

O'Brien will run again

Speaker seeks re-election to role

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

During the last two years, House Speaker William O'Brien, R-Mont Vernon, has been used to getting his way. With that in mind, it probably comes as no surprise that O'Brien will seek reelection — not only for his House seat, but also for his role as speaker. O'Brien made the announcement earlier this month.

Two years ago, O'Brien faced off against Rep. Gene Chandler, R-Bartlett, who is now the House Speaker Pro Tempore. Chandler was seen as the more moderate, establishment Republican, while O'Brien was seen as more extreme, more of the activist end of the party. O'Brien prevailed. This time around, O'Brien rolled out a list of five co-chairmen for his reelection effort, and Chandler is one of those chairmen. So is Finance Committee Vice-Chairwoman Lynne Ober, R-Hudson.

"I look forward to having an open conversation with the citizens of New Boston and Mont Vernon, and with my colleagues of the House about the important issues facing New Hampshire and the extraordinary achievements of this legislature," O'Brien said in a statement. "I appreciate the support of those who have stepped forward to be co-chairmen of my committee and I will work hard to earn the trust of my constituents and my fellow representatives. We've accomplished some great things, in terms of creating an environment to grow jobs, making government live within its means and bringing accountability back to Concord, and we will continue these efforts in the next biennium."

Voters were expecting big changes under this Republican regime in Concord. And most Republican voters probably got their wish, with sweeping cuts to the state budget, a slew of changes to business laws, and retirement system reforms, to name just a few items.

There was a hiccup on right-to-work legislation — it was one of the few bills O'Brien couldn't get through, and he failed twice on that measure. Many are probably angry the House wasn't able to pass a repeal of same-sex marriage. O'Brien and the GOP leadership in the House never appeared to be fully behind the legislation — that might help O'Brien's reelection effort.

Then there's education funding. O'Brien, Senate leadership and Gov. John Lynch all appear to want to get something done. O'Brien's version, which would essentially give the Legislature all the control and discretion over education funding, is the most extreme. The House and Senate are slated to work out their differences this session.

Playing the radical card

Democrats have attacked O'Brien as being extremist. They've made that charge essentially since O'Brien took over as speaker. Those attacks are sure to continue. Take Exhibit A from state Democratic Party Chairman Ray Buckley: "In his announcement, O'Brien stated he wants to have a conversation about the 'extraordinary achievements of this legislature.' Unfortunately for Bill O'Brien and his cronies in the legislature, families across New Hampshire are paying attention to the 'extraordinary achievements' of the Tea Party-led legislature and they are fed up."



Buckley goes on to criticize O'Brien for pursuing a radical agenda. He pointed to legislation that allows guns on college campuses, de-funds Planned Parenthood, and cuts higher education funding, and the attempt to repeal gay marriage. There will likely be more attacks like that from Democrats.

Coalescing support

It will be interesting to watch where Republicans draw their battle lines of support for O'Brien. Some Republicans have voiced criticism of O'Brien's sometimes heavy-handed approach to legislative battles. Others say political hardball is par for the course.

Rep. Lee Quandt, R-Exeter, said in a Sea-coast Online report that he was testing the waters on whether he would run for speaker this year. Quandt got into a much-publicized spat with O'Brien after Quandt was removed from the House Finance Committee. Quandt was the only Republican on the committee to vote against the state budget. Quandt also spoke out against right-to-work legislation.

But O'Brien will easily be able to contend that his Republican-led House did what voters demanded it do. There was some dabbling in much-dreaded social issues, but O'Brien will be able to say the House focused on getting the state budget under control, creating jobs and improving the economy.

Of course, O'Brien's becoming speaker again is contingent on Republicans' retaining control of the House. Yes, the GOP has nearly 100 seats on Democrats, but some pundits, including Quandt, are predicting Democrats will gain 75 to 100 seats in the House. Political analysts have said we'll see some balancing out this election, following several swings in one direction or another. That Democrats would re-gain control of the House seems possible — perhaps not likely, but a whole lot can change between now and the election.

Along with Chandler and Ober, O'Brien's other campaign co-chairmen are House Republican Alliance Co-Chairwoman Marilinda Garcia, R-Salem; Ways and Means Committee Chairman Stephen Stepanek, R-Amherst; and Freshmen Republican Caucus Co-Chairman Dan Tamburello, R-Londonderry.

Even the support of folks like Chandler and Ober doesn't necessarily mean O'Brien's support is going to be solid for the long term. Rep. Steve Vaillancourt, R-Manchester, writing on NHInsider.com, suggests that it is well within the realm of possibility that either Chandler or Ober could change his mind and end up supporting someone else or running for speaker themselves. Vaillancourt said both Ober and Chandler had been working to build support for themselves prior to joining O'Brien's effort. In April, in a presidential election year, things are fluid.

Still, from O'Brien's view, things look a lot better for him if people like Ober and Chandler are on his team, rather than declining to participate at this point.

Stay tuned.

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Voyage to the Titanic

David Christensen on making the dive

New Hampshire resident David Christensen is one of the few people to have seen the Titanic in its resting place on the North Atlantic Ocean floor. 2012 marks the 100-year anniversary of the Titanic's voyage. Christensen spent more than five years on a business development team for Titanic ventures. He worked with RR Auction in Amherst as a Titanic consultant, and he is a founding partner of Clearpath Entertainment, which represents a range of historical collections.

Q: *How did you get this opportunity [to dive to the wreckage]?*

I'd been working in Los Angeles in the music industry as an artist manager for Warner Brothers.... A longtime colleague and friend of mine, G. Michael Harris, has been involved with the Titanic for 25-plus years. ... He was putting together the salvage rights and he was mounting an expedition in 2005. He asked if I'd be interested in coming as the media director. I would be pulling together all the media and sponsorship. Obviously, I jumped at the opportunity.

Were you an experienced diver prior to this?

No, I hadn't done it before. When you're diving the Titanic, it's not free diving. It's not scuba diving. You're in a submersible sub, almost like a spaceship cabin. The submersible goes 2.5 miles down to the wreck.

That was kind of a silly question, now that I think of it.

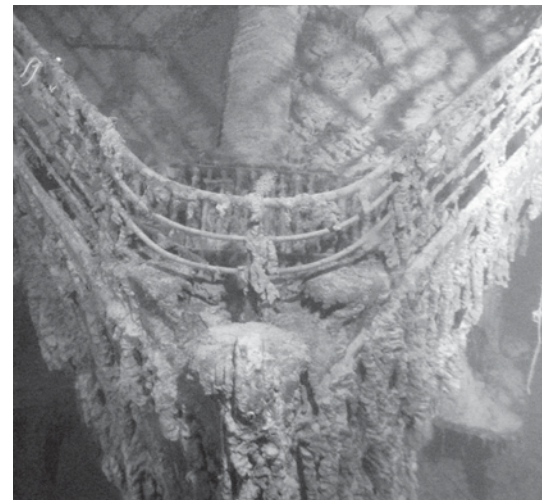
[laughing] I get asked that all the time. I would have died at about 200 feet. Luckily we had the submersible.

What was it like, going down?

The experience was obviously amazing. The trip was done in a submersible made by the Russians. If you've seen the movie *Titanic*, the first 20 minutes of that is about as close to a documentary of diving the Titanic as there is. ... Basically, the submersible is launched over the side of a ship.... It's dropped into the water. It's a tight compartment ... with one pilot and two passengers. We were shoulder to shoulder with our knees bent. ... It was a two-and-a-half-hour descent from the surface to the bottom of the ocean. ... You free fall in a very slow corkscrew all the way down. It's an un-powered descent. ... It's complete pitch darkness on the way down. Once you breach the surface, there's really no sunlight. It's complete darkness until we hit the bottom.

It sounds a little eerie. How was it dealing with that?

It certainly was a little eerie. Before we had done any dives, we had to sign a lengthy waiver letting us know the consequences and the dangers involved with diving to those depths. They had one of the expedition members talk to us about the different dangers.... It takes four nanoseconds for the brain to recognize any sensation. So if you cut yourself, it would take four nanoseconds for that to get to your brain. [At those depths], it takes two nanoseconds for the submersible to implode, so you'd have no idea what hit you. That was one of the saving graces. If there were a problem, we would have had no idea it had happened. There was also a risk that the submersible could get caught or stuck on something. There's no rescue at that depth.... People don't realize it is a wreck site and there is a massive amount of debris and cabling. It's a very, very treacherous place to be maneuvering around.



(left) David Christensen is one of the few people to have made the dive to the Titanic wreck. (top left) Christensen made the 2.5-mile trip down to the Titanic wreck in a Russian submersible craft. (above) Christensen spent about eight hours examining the Titanic wreck. Pictured here is the bow.

What was it like once you could see the wreckage?

The submersible has these huge floodlights that turn on, on the outside of the sub. They light up the area in front of you. The first thing you notice is the dust settling, and then the first thing we saw was the bow of the Titanic. We landed just to the right of the anchor. The first thing I saw was the anchor, and then we looked up at the bow. Once the submersible is at that depth, it operates like an airplane with propellers ... and then it rises up above the wreckage. ... It sort of flies over the wreckage. Our mission was two-fold. We spent eight hours gathering [high-definition] footage, which was some of the most recent HD footage at the time. The second goal was to try to find additional information about ... the grounding theory and how the iceberg affected the ship. ... The whole trip took 12 hours.

What stuck out the most for you?

Two things. One is certainly going to the bottom of the ocean recognizing you're face to face with a piece of history so few people get the opportunity to see. More people go to outer space than to the depths of the ocean. It's certainly a mind-bending experience. But the part I found the most memorable was not being on the bottom but really being on the surface of the ocean. Where the Russian ship is stationed ... is literally the exact same spot where the Titanic sank. On the evening on the deck of the ship, I was really under the same stars, breathing the same air and looking at the same water in the exact location where all those people met their fate. That was really a memorable experience. ...

Did you get a good look at... where the iceberg hit?

That's actually one of the frustrations of scientists and explorers. The bow hit the ocean floor with such force it actually dug into the ocean bed about 60 feet. So you cannot see where the gashes are. It's completely obstruct-

ed by the ocean floor and sand. That's why it's such a mystery, how it actually sank. ...

When you were down there, how far were you able to see?

A fairly short range. Lighting is obviously as strong as possible but you're really only getting a couple yards of visibility. Still, it's a very tight spectrum. You can see right in front of you. The pilot is very careful because you don't really have a lot of lighted lead in front of you.

Did you get a sense of just how massive a vessel it was?

The enormity of it is certainly visible. Even though you can't take in whole sections of the ship at a time, you certainly can get a very good view of what's in front of you. ...

Sounds like it was an amazing experience.

It was, for sure.... I feel very grateful to have had the opportunity. It actually really sparked an interest in me. After that, I changed the course of how my business operates. I started in the music and entertainment industry. After the trip ... my company began representing large historical artifact collections and pop culture collections. We'd do tours all over the country. [His company also has a large sports memorabilia collection.] It inspired me to take historical artifacts and to bring them to people in an entertaining and educational way.

So the Titanic experience really spurred you in that direction?

Absolutely. I still do a lot of musical stuff. We work with The Common Man's Flying Monkey, and we do the marketing and the booking, but it really just kind of expanded how I look at historical projects and to bring an entertainment and educational component as well.

— Jeff Mucciarone

QoL

APRIL 26, 2012

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Granite State going green

Dartmouth College, Keene State College, Plymouth State University, Southern New Hampshire University and the University of New Hampshire made the Princeton Review's Guide to 322 Green Colleges: 2012 Edition. The guide, created in partnership with the U.S. Green Building Council, profiles higher education institutions that show a commitment to sustainability in their academic offerings, campus infrastructure, activities, and career preparation, said the Princeton Review website.

QOL score: +1

Comments: UNH has taken an extra step in its green education practices by adding the Sustainability Academy to its program offerings. Visit sustainableunh.unh.edu.

New Hampshire equals active

While the number of people who are classified as inactive continues to rise nationally, New Hampshire remains one of the five most active states in the country. According to the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association's 2012 Sports, Fitness & Recreational Activities report, 220 million Americans are active, but 70 million people are considered inactive. New Hampshire joined Utah, Idaho, Colorado and Minnesota as the states with the largest percentage of "active" residents. Mississippi came in last in the report.

QOL score: +1

Comment: The report said the top five sports/activities in the U.S. are fitness walking, bowling, treadmill, running/jogging, and hand weights. QOL is not sure "hand weights" is a sport, but QOL will go try some and find out. Bicycling was No. 6 and freshwater fishing was No. 8 — both activities for which New Hampshire is well-suited.

And so it begins

Officials have said they expected the state House of Representatives' redistricting plan to be challenged in court. And they were right. The city of Manchester was the first to step up and file a lawsuit in Superior Court. Manchester Mayor Ted Gatsas said under the plan the city loses representation, which he said was unacceptable. Some have criticized the plan because it combines parts of Manchester, the state's largest and most diverse city, with Litchfield, a much more rural community. When lawmakers last tried to pass redistricting plans, it ended up a major court battle. It looks like things are headed in that direction once again.

QOL score: -2

Comment: "While I appreciate that the Mayor of Manchester did not like the outcome of House redistricting, the reality remains, that his issues are political and not legal," said House Majority Leader D.J. Bettencourt in a statement. "The House welcomes the chance to defend ourselves, but we are strongly disappointed by the fact that the courts will be distracted by this instead of moving forward on providing access to those who might truly need it."

Nature in the Millyard

It might not be for the faint of heart, but QOL was pleased to see that nature is alive and well, even amidst all the bricks of Manchester's Millyard. QOL spotted a red-tailed hawk flying low over Commercial Street last week with what appeared to be a rat in its talons. A pleasant image, perhaps not, but it would seem to be a signal that wildlife is persevering even where it seems like it shouldn't be able to. The hawk flapped its way over a refurbished mill building and disappeared from view.

QOL score: +1

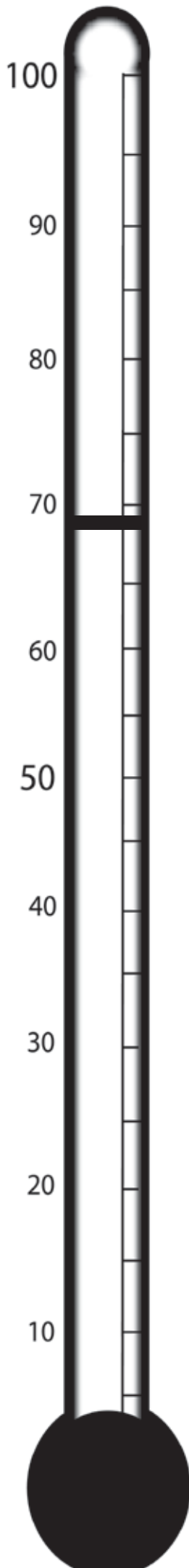
Comment: QOL frequently spots a pair of red-tailed hawks in the vicinity of the Millyard — not always with a rodent, though.

QOL score: 68

Net change: +1

QOL this week: 69

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LONGSHOTS

Too much going on to stick to one topic



News Item: Draft Winds Blow Through Foxboro This Week

That sound you'll probably hear come 10 p.m. Thursday will be my head pounding on the coffee after **Bill Belichick**

either trades out of the first round or uses his first-round picks to take offensive players because they offered the "best value." I love the draft, but also hated it because of Coach B's maneuvering to get "value" — a trendy word that has me acting like Moe in *The Three Stooges* when he hears the term "Ni-AGRA Falls." The Patriots need help on defense — at pass rush, backfield and they could use depth along the line. But they also did last year and still took offensive players with four of their first five picks — including tackle **Nate Solder** with the first pick. Admittedly Solder turned out to be very good and a key during **Sebastian Vollmer's** injury-riddled 2011 season. And with **Matt Light** edging closer to retirement, he's ready for the important role of protecting **Tom Brady's** blind slide at left tackle, so you get no argument from me that it wasn't a good pick. But, while they did get to the Super Bowl, there's also no argument the defense was mostly awful. And while the defense played pretty well in the big game, they still couldn't make the big stop when needed. So you have to wonder: If they had a real playmaker or two, could they have stopped **Eli Manning** on that final drive?

Bottom line: With Brady's window closing, they need help on defense NOW! I'm not talking about reaching to get a defender who'll just be OK. I don't care if they trade up to get an impact rusher, wait until he falls to them or follow the **George Allen** route to trade picks for a player who can get to the passer. I just want them to target the guy or guys they like best and go get them. Personally, I'd prefer they used the draft like in 2007, when after **Reche Caldwell** was the '06 receiver, they traded a second for **Wes Welker** and a fourth for **Randy Moss** to becoming the highest-scoring team in NFL history. The defensive player I'd target for a similar move is Miami's **Cameron Wake** — who has a high motor and is capable of

15-sack seasons. He'll be hard to get, but he's 30, unhappy with his contract and talking about holding out, and extra picks could speed Miami's re-building process.

News Item: Booing Bobby V

I know baseball is a marathon and not a sprint. I also have seen a team make up seven games in one week on a division leader as the Yankees did on Boston in the first week of August 1978. So turnarounds can happen in a short time. But here's what disturbs me about the Red Sox so far: They look lifeless. And while that by itself is bothersome, when it follows last year's epic collapse right out of the gate it says something about the make-up of the team. Bobby Valentine could be the worst manager in the history of the universe and not be totally responsible for what's happened so far. I mean, was it bad moves by him that blew a 9-0 lead to the Yanks on Saturday before losing 15-9 in astonishing fashion? He used every pitcher he could and they all stunk after **Felix Doubront** left them with a 9-1 lead. So it's the players and not the manager, no matter how loudly the Nation boos.

News Item: Pedroia Says – That's Not How We Do It Around Here

That was **Dustin Pedroia's** comment after **Bobby V's** perplexing comments about **Kevin Youkilis** last week that caused such a media stir. But here's my question: Where was that type of outspokenness from Pedroia last year when the chicken-and-beer crowd was stabbing his guy **Tito Francona** right in the back during the epic collapse? The response from the team to that was "We need to change the culture," so the manager was fired and the GM allowed (pushed) to walk. My question is how did that change the team? And my response to Pedroia is it's time to change from the way things were done and the players need to adapt to the manager, not the other way around. If they don't, then it's time to start moving bodies out, because the players are the ones who are far more responsible for last year's collapse than the first two who got shown the door.

News Item: Guess He Wasn't Playing Chess After All

Last week I said **Danny Ainge's** standing pat at the trade deadline right before the team I said should be dismantled started playing very well was a case of his playing

chess while I was playing checkers. But if a Yahoo.com report from last week is to be believed that he was really close to trading **Ray Allen** and **Paul Pierce** until the deals fell through at the last minute, maybe that's not the case. The deal for Ray was to Memphis for restricted free agent-to-be **OJ Mayo** and a draft pick, while the Pierce deal was to New Jersey for a big expiring contract AND a first-round pick. I initially thought it was to be this year's lottery bound No. 1 — which would give them a shot at getting **Anthony Davis** if the ping pong balls fell the right way, which made me almost swallow my gum.

Turns out it wasn't a pick until next year, but it made me think of this what-if. Which would you rather have — the current team that has played so well since the All-Star break intact to make a run at the NBA title — where if they continue to play as well they have, it's a 10-percent chance of winning it all — or a team with \$45 million in cap space, four first-round picks and basically the same 10-percent shot at getting Davis? I'm not sure which I'd take, as I'd love to see these guys go deep — but Davis could give you 10 years of being in contention.

News Item: The New Plan

As for the future, I think there's a new plan in place. Rather than let KG and Ray walk at the end of the year, I think Danny's going to try and re-sign them at reduced rates. If he can get KG down to \$10 million from \$22 million and Ray from about \$10 million to \$7 million and combine that with the \$5 million that comes off the books for **Jermaine O'Neal**, it gives Danny about \$15 million to \$18 million in cap space to recruit new players to a team that is still competitive. Throw in two first-round picks in a very deep draft and the return of **Jeff Green**, and he's got ammo to reshape the team on the fly. And if the deals for KG and Ray are two-year deals, he'll have \$30 million to play with after the 2014 season when Pierce comes off the books too.

Dave Long can be e-mailed at dlong@hippobpress.com. He hosts Saturday Morning Sports with Dave Long from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays on WGAM – The Game 1250-AM in Manchester and 900-AM in Nashua.



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PEOPLE, PLACES & OTHER STUFF

Sports Glossary

Three Stooges: Currently the subject of a major motion picture in a remake of a threesome that over the years actually was a fivesome. Moe Howard, a Hitler look-alike minus the 'stache, was the mean one who poked people in the eyes, hit them over the head with crowbars or ran a saw over their head. Larry regularly had clumps of his hair yanked out of his head by Moe, while Curly was the dumb one and easily the most funny of the five. Shemp joined the group after Curly's stroke in 1946 and stayed until he died of a heart attack in 1955 and was replaced by the completely un-funny Joe Besser. The secret to their success? It was the sound effects, as for some reason hearing the clank from someone getting hit over the head with a crowbar was funny. While the new movie may connect with the generation that never saw the real ones, it won't for those who did — 'cause they'll never reproduce the chemistry of the original group. And forget that "Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus" bunk; a better test is the Stooges. I've never met a woman who liked them or a guy who didn't.

ni-AGRA FALLS: Phrase uttered repeatedly in a Stooges short about a bad experience Moe once had, of which he recalls, "Slowly I turn, inch by inch, step by step, I..." and then he demonstrates on Curly how he beat the crap out the guy.

George Allen: One-of-a-kind '60s/'70s NFL coach for the Rams, Redskins and Rams. Has third-highest winning percentage in history, but no titles and just one Super Bowl appearance, although when he was coordinator in Chicago his Bears defense gave up just 144 points and won the title in 1963. While later in his career he detested the draft, he arguably made the greatest two picks to come in the same draft in Gale Sayers and Dick Butkus while in charge of the Bears' 1965 draft. After that he traded away almost every pick he ever had.

Reche Caldwell: Speed-challenged wide-out who led the Pats with 61 catches in 2006. Despite it being, , the best of his six NFL seasons he lasted one year in NE as his lack of speed and hands of iron just didn't cut it for Coach B — with the final straw a dropped sure TD pass in the '06 AFC title game when it would've turned a 37-31 Colts win into a 38-37 Pats victory.

Monarchs get salute win over Admirals

The Big Story: The big story is actually two stories. Part one is that the Manchester Monarchs came home this week for three games at the world-famous Verizon Wireless Arena tied 1-1 with the Norfolk Admirals beginning on Wednesday. And two wins on home ice will let them move on to Round II in the Calder Cup Playoffs. Part two is that the M's ended the Admirals' astonishing 29-game winning streak on Saturday with a 5-2 win behind two goals and three points by **Linden Vey**.

Hot Ticket: Monarchs playoffs. By the time some will see this, Wednesday's game will be in the books already, but Games 4 and 5 if necessary come on Friday and Saturday at the V, with tickets available at the box office and at Ticketmaster.

Sports 101: Who is the only player in NFL history to score a touchdown on a punt return, after a recovery of a blocked punt, off an interception and a fumble recovery?

Help Wanted: The folks at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway are looking for an account executive to work on their sales team, selling sponsorships for their various NASCAR and non-NASCAR events. The key things you need are 2-5 years of sales experience within sports, and it's helpful to have a knowledge and passion for motor sports. http://jobview.monster.com/getjob.aspx?jobid=108981870&WT.mc_n=Indeed_US&from=indeed.

Mother's Day Race: Don't forget the Fisher Cats and Millennium Running will hold the first area Mother's Day 3K this Mother's Day to celebrate moms around New Hampshire. The race will wind its way through downtown and end inside Northeast Delta Dental Stadium right before the Fisher Cats play the Binghamton Mets. Online registration (www.millenniumrun.com) ends May 8, but you can register right up till race day on May 13.

On This Date — April 26: 1905 The Cubs' **Jack McCarthy** becomes only major-league player to throw 3 runners out at plate in one game and all were ends of a double play. **1912** Red Sox' **Hugh Bradley** hits the first home run at Fenway Park. **1931** **Lou Gehrig** hits a home run but is called out for passing a runner; the mistake costs him AL home run crown as he & Babe Ruth tie for season. **1961** **Roger Maris** hits 1st of 61 homers in 1961. **1962** Red Sox hurler and NH resident **Bill Monbouquette** no-hits the White Sox. **1964** The Celtics beat the SF Warriors four games to one to win their sixth straight NBA title. **1966** **Red Auerbach** retires as Boston Celtics coach. **1988** The New York Mets' **Davey Johnson** becomes the second manager to record 400 victories in first four years. **1990** **Nolan Ryan** ties Bob Feller's record of pitching 12 one-hitters. **1992** **Ozzie Smith** steals his 500th base.

Sports 101 Answer: He's still active today — the four-way touchdown scorer is the great Ravens safety Ed Reed.

The Numbers

3 — hits allowed by lefty **Carmen Giampetruzzi** as he shut down Central with a dominant effort in a 4-0 Trinity win over their intra-city rival.

5 — run deficit the Bedford girls came back from to gain a 9-5 softball win over Windham as pitchers **Kelly Woodmansee** and **Emily Grasset** righted the ship with 6 innings of shutout ball and **Ashely Abad** knocked in four to lead the comeback offensively.

9 — points rung up by Bedford's **Arthur Krogman** via five goals and four assists in leading Derryfield to a 14-5

win over Windham in NHIAA lacrosse action.

20 — the magic number for Souhegan and Merrimack lacrosse in 20-1 and 20-7 wins over Nashua South and Goffstown respectively when **Jamie Wallisch**, **Mickenzie Larivee** and **Madison Learned** scored four times for the Sabers, and **Megan Howe** and **Lauren Perry** had the same number for the Tomahawks.

23 — strikeouts for Manchester Central hurler **Sarah Lavallee** in back-to-back wins over Timberlane (6-1) and Nashua South (4-1) when she also helped her own cause with

a double, a triple and a home run as a hitter.

15 — hits for Concord in a 10-7 win over Dover as **Patrick Cannon** exploded for 3 hits and 3 runs scored to help the Crimson stay undefeated.

24 — big number for the lacrosse teams at Londonderry and Souhegan as each scored that number of goals in 24-3 and 24-6 wins over Nashua South and Nashua North respectively.

213 — number of former Red Sox players on the field during Friday's celebration for the 100th anniversary of the day Fenway Park opened.

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So take off the business suit or the work uniform, leave the cell phone indoors, and get outside to whatever little patch of greenery — or brownery, or whatever it is — you have. If you're starting from scratch, you'll want to kick off with Michelle Cerulli's report on how to create a garden. Whether you're working with a new garden or a going concern, read what Kelly Sennott found out about how to make the economic most of vegetable gardening. For those who are lawn-centered, Jeff Mucciarone reports on how to take the best care of your grass, and for everyone growing a lawn or garden, Angel Roy tells us how worms can help.

Starting from scratch

Make your own garden patch

By Michelle Cerulli
mcerulli@hippopress.com

Planting a home garden — of vegetables, annuals, trees and shrubs or other perennials — need not require years of experience or even a green thumb.

Simply having the interest, some time and little patience will go a long way, says Linda Zukas, annuals manager and container designer at Churchill's Garden Center in Exeter.

"If you're not a veggie person and you start a veggie garden, you're not going to love it, and it's just going to become a chore," Zukas said. "If you're just starting out and you're a flower person, start with a flower garden. If you're a veggie person, start with a veggie garden."

Zukas has an associate's degree in horticulture from the University of New Hampshire and has been working at Churchill's for 23 years.

She says one of the first things to determine when starting a garden from scratch is making sure the space you'll be working with gets enough sunlight. She advises people to think ahead by three or four weeks and figure out if any nearby trees will block the sunlight once their leaves have filled in.

Another consideration is an existing lawn or other vegetation in the to-be garden area. Zukas says that the vegetation will need to be killed off. Stones should also be removed.

"As soon as you start chopping roots [or blades of grass], they will keep growing," Zukas said. To get rid of existing vegetation, "you can use chemicals, or the more organic way would be laying down black plastic or layers of newspaper" over the vegetation.

The next step, according to both Zukas and Jeffrey Meulenbroek, co-owner of Studley Flower Gardens in Rochester, is to call or visit your local garden center. Garden center staff will be able to help you choose and stock up on soil, compost and other foundation materials you may need.

"Any local garden center can provide local knowledge, such as what [plants] work in your area and successful vegetable varieties and types of flowers and shrubs," Meulenbroek said. "They are a source for local knowledge."

Meulenbroek says that his early season plantings for annuals include pansies, violas and diascia. Annuals are seeded flowers or plants that germinate, flower and die within a single growing season. They are usually added to gardens for color. Meulenbroek works

mostly with perennials, plants that live for more than one growing season. Perennials can handle a light frost, Meulenbroek said.

Some garden centers can test your soil for composition and pH level, said Ely Osborne of farm and garden center Osborne's Agway, which has locations in Concord, Hooksett and Belmont. By testing a small soil sample, staff can determine whether your soil is sand- or clay-based and whether you will need to add lime, Osborne said. The addition of lime to the soil will increase the soil's pH level, which may be necessary depending on how low the pH level is to start with (the lower the pH, the more acidic the soil is) and what you're planning to plant.

"For some vegetables, the soil's pH may be too high," Osborne said. "Most vegetables [will thrive] with a soil pH around 6.0 to 6.5. ... For tomatoes, it's 7.0, which is [the pH level] that a lawn is perfect at. Asparagus is around 6.0 to 6.2." It depends on the plants, and it's not difficult to make your soil rich and appropriate to the plants' needs with some extra material and attention, Osborne said.

Zukas agrees: "The basis of any good garden is good soil," she said. "People hate putting money into the ground, but it's really important."

The process of preparing the soil — by shoveling, digging, overturning and mixing in fertilizer and other materials — is called tilling. Sandy soil, which gets more common as you move closer to the coast, might need topsoil, compost, green sand or cow manure added to it to make it richer and better able to hold on to nutrients. Alternately, clay-based soil is already dense and heavy and can be amended with gypsum, which will loosen it up and allow the nutrients to stay in the soil, Osborne said.

"Nutrients do not stay in sandy soil, [especially] nitrogen, which is essential; it sieves right out," she said. "With clay-based soil, there is a run-off; nothing penetrates it."

Zukas says that once the soil is balanced and loosened up, you may need to start watering right away. Between the lack of snow this past winter and the small amount of rain so far this spring, the ground is very dry. A maintenance schedule to prevent funguses should also be undertaken, Osborne added. She suggests asking garden center staff about copper dusting, sulfur and other fungicides. Side-dressing the base of plants with fertilizer — be it chicken manure or Miracle-Gro — once a month will also help keep your soil healthy, she said.

Local places that can help

• **Churchill's Garden Center** 12 Hampton Road, Exeter, 772-2685, churchillsgardens.com
Offers ongoing classes, including design consultations and workshops on garden planting, annuals, herbs and vegetables, container design, mixed gardens and more. For details, visit churchillsgardens.com/events.php.
• **Demers Garden Center, Inc.** 656 S. Mammoth

Road, Manchester, 625-8298, demersgardencenter.com
• **Osborne's Agway** 258 Sheep Davis Road, Concord, 228-8561. 343 Londonderry Turnpike, Hooksett, 627-6855. 304 Daniel Webster Highway, Belmont, 527-3769, osbornesagway.com, facebook.com/osbornesagway
• **Studley Flower Gardens** 82 Wakefield St., Rochester, 332-4565, studleyflowergardens.com
Online garden center resource-

es at studleyflowergardens.com/garden-center-info.php. Also occasionally offers gardening classes. Call for more information.
• **Wentworth Greenhouses** 141 Rollins Road, Rollinsford, 743-4919, wentworthgreenhouses.com
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The next step is planning the garden's layout, which depends on how much space you have to work with, say Zukas and Osborne. Garden centers can help with this planning and design as well, and some will send staff to homes for customized assistance.

Some questions Zukas suggests asking yourself: "How big do you want the garden to be and what kind of plant material do you want to grow? If you want a flower bed, is [the space] shady or sunny? Do you want a splash of color, or do you want flowers that will come back every year?"

"You have to do a little research ... and buy the right plants for the right location," she said. You have to be realistic about the amount of space you have and what you are looking for, Zukas said.

Osborne says that some vegetables, such as lettuce and leafy greens, will do well with only partial sun, but most, especially tomatoes, need full sunlight.

Annuals and perennials are very much in need of sun *or* shade, says Osborne, whose husband and two brothers-in-law co-own Osborne's Agway, which their parents opened 25 years ago. "All of those are labeled [with instructions specific to the plant], and staff can help with that."

Every garden is different and should be based on the space you have and how you want to use it, says Meulenbroek, who grew up in the family business.

"It's all about your interest and expressing your personality," he said. "Think big dreams, try to see where you want to get the

garden and break it down into some manageable projects."

Zukas says that many people are going back to growing their own vegetables. Tomatoes remain a steadfast staple, though home gardeners are also branching out.

"People are trying different things," Zukas said. "A lot of hot peppers and traditional peppers as well. ... A lot of people are growing things for color, such as Swiss chard. People [are making their gardens] pretty and not just edible."

She says trends are harder to spot when it comes to flowers. Some people prefer bright colors whereas others will come in looking for all-white flowers. It's a personal thing, she said.

"There are so many new varieties out there, including trees and shrubs. There are new and exciting things. Some people are plant breeders that spend their life cross-pollinating and working on perfecting a certain color or species, or they find a new species in the wild and hybridize them. Ultimately, they bring them to the market," she said.

For Meulenbroek, Zukas and Osborne, gardening is profession and passion. It's an activity for people of all ages and gets people in touch with the earth, Meulenbroek says.

"People that are interested in gardening are pretty universally great people," he said. "It's also a great activity to do with kids. I have two daughters [ages 3 and 6], and I try to get them out in the garden as often as possible ... to get them interested in watching things grow."

Growing food

Which plants are worth the effort?

By Kelly Sennott
 ksennott@hippopress.com

Victory gardens were popular during World War II as ways to save money and reduce pressure on the public food supply brought on by the war effort. Today, gardeners can still get more bang for their buck by growing their own crops, but the greatest value lies in the quality difference between home-grown and store-bought produce: The home-grown stuff can easily have more nutrients, better taste and better variety.

As for getting more (quantity) for less money, there are a few factors that need to be addressed: the size of the garden, whether or not it's a first-time garden, the types of food grown and, of course, whether or not the plants grow.

Shade, poor-quality soil and inferior knowledge about growing particular plants can hinder a gardener's success, which is why Jessie Banhazl advises purchasing ready-to-grow vegetable plants from local farmers. Unless you are planning on growing a lot, buying seed packets may not be worth it.

"It really depends on the size of your garden and how much effort you want to put into it," said Banhazl, the co-founder, managing director and owner of Green City Growers, a Somerville, Mass., company that installs and maintains organic vegetable gardens for homeowners, businesses, restaurants and schools.

"Especially in New Hampshire, I wouldn't recommend planting fruit crops from the seed — there's not a long-enough growing season," she said. It's true that seeds are cheaper, but vegetable plants have a head

start on seeds once growing season begins. Ready-to-buy vegetable plants have been developing in a greenhouse before growing season begins and, because of this head start, will produce more food throughout the season. (Banhazl does, however, advise gardeners to actually read the seed packets if they do choose to grow food from the seed. The packet will have all the information you need about when to plant it, where to plant it, etc.)

The quantity and quality of the food grown, however, are also dependent on the quality of the plant.

"Buy something from a local farmers market, because it's something that they'd plant in the ground themselves," Banhazl said. Plants and seeds from box stores are more mass-produced and thus may have received less care than the plants than the farmers.

Advanced gardeners are more likely to have success than beginner gardeners simply because they have more experience and know what grows well and what doesn't. Because of this, Banhazl advises gardeners to start small and expand with each year. Find out what works and what doesn't work. Start with the easiest foods to grow, then move on to trickier produce later, Banhazl said. This way, growers are also at less risk of losing money.

For the beginner grower, Banhazl recommends growing herbs. Chives, thyme and oregano are all very easy to grow, and they're perennials: Plant them once, and they'll come back every year. Leafy greens like kale and chard are also great to grow because the outer leaves of the plant (the edible part) will continue to grow throughout the summer, Banhazl said.



Jessie Banhazl of Green City Growers says that the best part in growing your own food is the fresher, better quality. Courtesy photo.

Everyone wants to grow tomatoes, but those can be tricky — beginners should try growing cherry tomatoes first, because those don’t need as much light and growers can grow more. There’s less risk of failure with cherry tomatoes, and thus you’re at less risk of losing money on them.

Cucumbers are very prolific, Banhazl said: “From two plants, you can get a ton of cucumbers.” Cucumbers are also great for a small gardening space because they can grow vertically, as well. Peas and winterbeans also grow up and out, which makes them great for urban gardeners working in small spaces.

Moving away from the simple matter of the price in the store vs. the price of growing your own food, the difference is not just in the numbers but in the increase in quality, said Joan Bonnette, president of the Nashua Garden Club.

“You have control of whether pesticides are used, and thus you can grow more organically,” Bonnette said. Match home-grown tomatoes and cucumbers against the organic ones in the store, and the price difference can be enormous. It’s also guaranteed fresh.

“It goes from harvesting, off the ground,

right onto your dinner plate. There is no loss of nutrients,” Banhazl said. Lots of grocery stores harvest their crops before they’re ripe because they’re anticipating a certain shelf life, Banhazl said. “Every day the vegetable sits in the store, you lose nutrient content,” she said.

Gardeners are also apt to have access to more rare varieties that you can’t always get at the market. It opens up a whole new rainbow of flavors. Banhazl advises food adventurers to ask their local farmers for track records on growing these special fruits and vegetables.

“Pattypan squashes, Blue Hubbard squash, and carrots can grow in every color — vegetables have a great diversity that you don’t see at the store,” she said.

Of course, it’s not all about saving money or getting better quality. The best part is in growing something yourself, Bonnette said.

“It is less expensive, yes, but beyond the price, there are other benefits to gardening. In growing your own food, you get a sense of satisfaction,” she said. “You get exercise — you’re out in the sun, burning calories while enjoying what you’re doing,” Bonnette said.

Greening your yard

A lawn is a just a big (or small) grass garden

By Jeff Mucciarone
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It’s springtime. That means it’s time to start thinking about your lawn. Actually, the time for thinking is over — it’s time for some action.

There are a number of things homeowners can do, on their own or with the help of a hired professional, to create a lush, green carpet of grass. And it can be done organically. Organic lawn care, if done properly, will result in a healthier lawn, and a lawn that will be more likely to bounce back when conditions aren’t so good, such as in the middle of August when the sun is sucking all the moisture out of the lawn. That’s all according to Chester Mandrik, organic landscaping guru and owner of YardSpice Organics in Hudson.

“More folks are looking to go this way,” Mandrik said. “They’re finding organics is working, and what’s happening is that people are seeing their next-door neighbor’s lawn ... and now they’re starting to go organ-

ic. ... People are seeing results.”

But homeowners might not see results overnight. With an organic approach, particularly if you’re converting from chemical fertilizers to organic, the transition is gradual. Mandrik said the transition takes four full years. Along the way, anything can happen. That’s why it’s important to get educated before you start spreading something on your lawn.

Mandrik remembers two years ago when lawns were particularly dry. It was the organic lawns that bounced back. He said all the chemical lawns didn’t make it.

First things first: Get your soil’s pH tested. The results will show you how acidic the soil is. The pH scale runs from 0 to 7. The lawn should be around 6.5 to 6.7. Whatever the pH is will indicate how much lime you should spread. Lime raises the pH of the soil. Local garden centers will typically perform pH tests, as will the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension. The Cooperative Extension will

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Studley Flower Gardens in Rochester. Photo courtesy of Jeffrey Meulenbroek.

also provide fertilizer recommendations and a full soil report.

Mandrik noted a product called Magical, which is essentially calcium — one bag replaces 10 bags of lime.

"One of the things with organic is that you always want to try to use less instead of using more," Mandrik said.

Whether it's an organic or a chemically fertilized lawn, at this time of year people need to de-thatch the lawn. That means getting a rake and raking up the dead, brown grass from the previous year. Professionals can do the work for you, but regardless, that's the first thing you've got to do, Mandrik said.

Take a look at the lawn itself. If the lawn is patchy, with lots of dead spots or spots without any grass, you might want to consider re-seeding the lawn. If the lawn is pretty well established, you might want to opt for applying a weed control agent. Mandrik suggests using an organic option: corn gluten. But you have to pick one or the other. If you pick the weed control agent, you can't re-seed as well. Although you can re-seed in the fall even if you put down a weed suppressor now.

"If you're going to have a lot of weeds, you're going to want to go with the corn gluten," Mandrik said.

Almost immediately after you de-thatch, it's time to start thinking about re-seeding or spreading a weed control agent, Mandrik said.

"It really just depends on how your lawn is," said Mandrik of whether people should re-seed or spread weed suppressors. "If you don't feel like you have enough grass, then you'll want to re-seed, if the grass is fertile, you can go ahead and use the corn gluten."

In other words, it's a personal assessment. Then it's time to fertilize. Whether it's a chemical or an organic fertilizer people choose, it's typically a four-step process, so just follow the instructions.

"The biggest issue we've had this year was that there was no snow," Mandrik said, noting the lack of snow resulted in less moisture in the soil.

It's been a well-documented dry spring so far, which means it's all the more important that homeowners begin watering their lawns now.

"You need to irrigate longer than you normally would," Mandrik said. "The reason is that if you irrigate longer now, it makes

the grass's roots grow longer, and then the roots will grow longer and need less water throughout the summer."

"If you don't irrigate now, you'll lose the lawn," Mandrik added. "It's very important to start now."

Plus, dry summer or not, most towns are probably looking at a water ban in the summer months.

When it comes time to start mowing the lawn, be careful not to chop off too much. Mandrik said to leave at least three inches and he said people shouldn't cut off more than one-third of the grass height at one time.

In the organic world, homeowners would always return the clippings to the lawn. They provide valuable nutrients, particularly nitrogen for the soil, and that means homeowners need to spread less fertilizer. The only time returning the clippings is a bad idea is when weeds are starting to seed. Leaving the clippings could help spread those seeds, so at those times, bag the clippings. When you see dandelions turn into the puffy, white balls that your kids probably like to play with, that's when you want to bag them. Crabgrass, another weed species that causes problems on many a lawn in New England, usually goes to seed around the end of July.

If you've already got an established weed population, sure, you could go spray the weeds with some kind of chemical that might kill them, but you might see better results and an overall healthier lawn if you get a little dirty and pull out the weeds yourself. The hand-pulling approach can actually be easier, more effective, and definitely less expensive, Mandrik said. And if you pull them out by hand, you're not risking hurting your lawn with the weed-killing chemicals.

During the summer months, homeowners can also spread an organic post-emergent weed killer. That's something that only came out in the last couple years. Mandrik noted a post-emergent weed killer by the company Fiesta.

As the weather cools and the season turns to fall, go ahead and re-seed, and make sure to use slow-release seeds, an organic option that helps to prepare the lawn for the winter, Mandrik said.

Then you're essentially just putting the lawn to bed for the winter.

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Working with worms

Critters can turn garbage into fertilizer

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

When Joan O'Connor was first handed a few small bags filled with composting worms at Canterbury Shaker Village, her initial thought was, "Now what?"

Eighteen years later, O'Connor, who has always had a passion for recycling, simple living and all things sustainable, is a huge advocate of composting worms and strives to educate others about the benefits of doing so through her business, Joan's Famous Composting Worms. She provides customers with temporary mini-worm bins to get them started with the process.

"I'm a worm mentor," O'Connor said. "I felt so alone with my first batch, until I started reading and learning and making stupid mistakes. It's fun."

Composting worms are to be used in indoor compost bins — if they're kept outside, both the worms and the compost pile will freeze during winter. Indoor compost bins can be created using a plastic storage bin; O'Connor recommends using one at least 2 feet by 3 feet and no more than 16 inches deep. The user must drill two one-inch holes in one lower corner of the container to allow for drainage.

"If you don't let out that excessive moisture, it gets mucky and disgusting," O'Connor said, adding that the liquid that pours from the bin is often called "worm manure tea," when worms are used. The drainage should be collected so that it may later be diluted and used to water plants. "If you analyze [the liquid] under a microscope, it's teeming with beneficial microorganisms," O'Connor said. "You want your soils to be vibrant like that. You don't want dead soil."

Before worms are introduced to the bin, the bottom of the container should be layered with moist peat moss and shredded newspaper. The worms should also be topped with peat moss and newspaper before food scraps are added. The bin should be kept at 60 to 80 degrees for the best results, O'Connor said. She suggests the basement as a good spot to keep the bin.

"Worms want to be fed beautiful garbage. They want it to be nice and dark and quiet," she said. "What a lovely life." If the basement isn't a storage option, the bin can be kept in a utility room, in a hall closet or even under the bed, she said, adding that no odors are emitted from indoor compost bins.

Indoor compost bins are to be used for apple cores, lettuce, fruits, vegetables, eggshells, coffee grounds, tea bags, paper plates, paper towels, beans, rice pasta and bread. Larger items, such as corn husks, should be left in an outdoor pile to decay, and citrus fruits should be left out of the equation altogether, O'Connor said.

"Twenty percent of what people throw away is compostable," she said. "Banana peels and stuff, stop throwing them in the trash can. Put them aside ... do this worm bin. It doesn't take much time."

Worms — O'Connor starts with a pound of Red Wigglers — can eat their own weight in garbage daily, and it is their feces, or castings (also often called "black gold"), that make the big contribution in composting process. When the compost is spread in the



Joan O'Connor with composting worms. Grace Dunklee Cohen photo.

garden, it's got additional nutrients from the castings.

"That's the reward," O'Connor said. "That's why you're doing it."

Some commercial fertilizers and composts claim to contain worm castings but are, O'Connor said, much different than the nutrient-rich castings produced in home worm bins, because they have been processed, dehydrated and packaged.

Composters should not worry about the small bugs that sometimes become part of the composting process.

"It's a community of stuff in there, not just worms," she said. "Everybody is doing their jobs." The only time bugs become a problem in a composting bin is if the bin contains too many of one species. In that case, O'Connor said, a layer of bugs can easily be scraped off the pile.

While selling her starter worm composting kits at farmers markets, O'Connor said the "ew" factor usually comes into play.

"I'm there holding worms in my hand and I say, 'Come over here, they're just composting worms,'" she said, "they're not the big night crawlers you see in a garden that are two to three inches long. They're long, red and beautiful."

"I have to convince people these are workers, not snakes," she said.

O'Connor said some school teachers have taken on indoor composting piles with worms as class projects. Homeschooling parents, she added, are some of her best customers because so many learning possibilities can stem from the process. She recommends the book *Worms Eat My Garbage* to parents and teachers interested in sharing the topic with today's youth.

"It's beyond these little Earth Day celebrations. People should do this year-round," she said. "If children have a snack, take the banana peels and say, 'OK, it's time to feed the worms.' Dig a hole, plant the garbage and cover it up."

Worms
joansworms.wordpress.com

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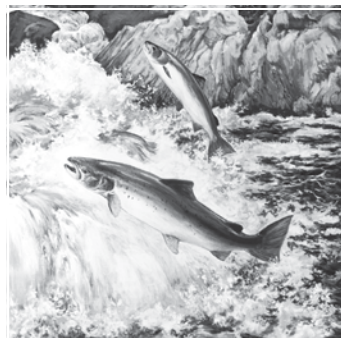
THIS WEEK

EVENTS TO CHECK OUT APRIL 26 – MAY 2, 2012, AND BEYOND



Friday, April 27

How deep is your love? However deep it is, you should be dancing. Head to “Stayin’ Alive: One Night of the Bee Gees” at 7:30 p.m. at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St. in Manchester. The Bee Gees tribute trio will give you Night Fever. And other songs. Ticket prices range from \$29.50 to \$39.50 (the \$39.50 seats include a meet and greet with the band before the show). Get a preview at www.stayinalivetribe.com. Order tickets at www.Palacetheatre.org.



Thursday, April 26

Head over to the 2012 Fish Festival at Amoskeag Fishways (6 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-3474, amoskeagfishways.org) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visitors can line up and cheer on U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologists when they deliver adult brood stock salmon to stock the fish ladder at 10 a.m. After that, there will be fish crafts, fish hats and fish games. Cost is \$3 per person, \$6 per family. No registration required. Illustration by Robert W. Hines for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



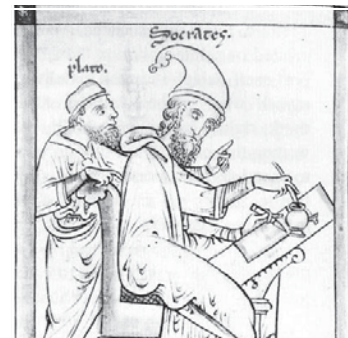
Saturday, April 28

Ease into spring cleaning by listening to a panel discussion sponsored by Goodwill Industries of Northern New England and the Greater Manchester Chapter of the National Association of Professional Organizers at the Manchester City Library on Saturday, April 28, from 10 to 11:15 a.m. in the Winchell Room. The panel will offer organizing tips for closets, clothing, student gear and kid stuff, with special advice for those who are downsizing, making life changes or dealing with ADHD. If you bring in one item — that you can carry — to donate to Goodwill, you can be entered into a free raffle. Registration is recommended; contact Steve Viggiano at sviggiano@manchesternh.gov or 624-6550, ext. 323.



Sunday, April 29

Queen City Ballroom is holding its 16th anniversary dance party today from 1 to 5 p.m., off site at Rockingham Ballroom, 22 Ash Swamp Road, Newmarket. Singles and couples of all ages and ability levels are welcome; it’s semi-formal and there will be a cash bar, door prizes, and DJ playing music in various genres. Tickets are \$16 if purchased by April 28, or \$20 at the door. Go to www.queencityballroomnh.com or call 622-1500.



Wednesday, May 2

The Socrates Café at the Toadstool Bookshop in Milford (586 Nashua St., Lorden Plaza, 673-1734), hosted by Rick Branch, meets tonight (it meets regularly on the first Wednesday of each month) at 7:30 p.m. for philosophic discussion. New members and curious thinkers are welcome. Visit www.toadbooks.com.

Free: songs

The Barnstormers, a male chorus of more than 60 members, will perform a free concert of pop, oldies and show tunes Saturday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m. at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral at 650 Hanover St. in Manchester. For info, call 759-3458.

Cheap: outdoor smarts

On Friday, April 27, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, 23 Science Center Road, Holderness, offers “Lost and Found,” a workshop that’ll help guests develop skills in using a map, compass, and landscape observation. The fee is \$9 and registration is required. Call 968-7194 or e-mail info@nhnature.org. Visit nhnature.org.

Splurge: dinner or dessert and a play

The Majestic Theatre presents *An American Millionaire* dinner/dessert theater at the Chateau Function Facility, 201 Hanover St., Manchester, Sunday, April 29, during dinner (at 1:30 p.m.) or dessert (at 2:30 p.m.). The play is a madcap murder-mystery-comedy whose hero is a miserable millionaire. Advance reservations are required; go to majestictheatre.net or call 669-7469 to avoid online service fees. Tickets are \$32 for the dinner show, \$22 for the dessert show. The play will also be performed Friday, April 27, and Saturday, April 28; visit the Majestic website for those times.

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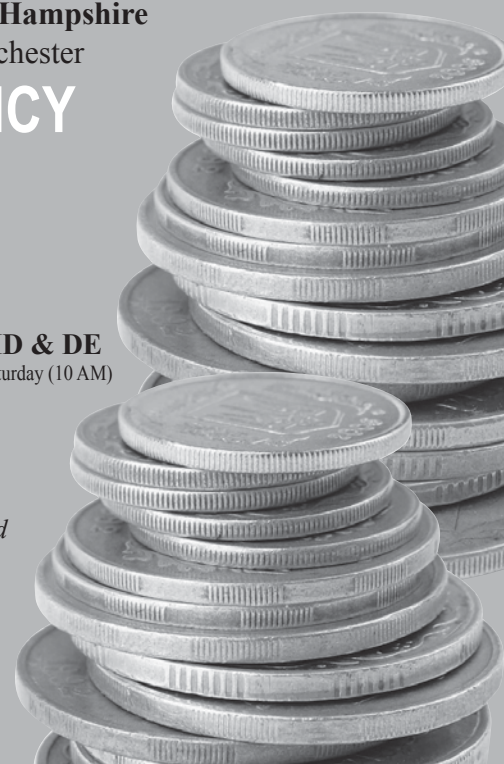
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Stravinsky's Firebird at the Palace

Award-winning violinist accompanies NH Phil

By Michelle Cerulli
mcerulli@hippopress.com

The New Hampshire Philharmonic is planning a full evening of classical music, storytelling and artwork for its upcoming concert.

The concert will be held Saturday, April 28, at the Palace Theatre. Award-winning violinist Sirena Huang will perform Tchaikovsky's violin concerto, and the full orchestra, led by music director Anthony Princiotti, will perform "Firebird," the classic Russian ballet set to music by Stravinsky. The "Firebird" segment of the program will be choreographed to artwork by local schoolchildren as part of their "Drawn to the Music" project. Pat Cunningham, principal clarinetist of the orchestra and local music teacher, will also perform Weber's clarinet concertino.

Huang, gold medalist of the International Tchaikovsky Competition for Young Musicians held in Korea in 2009, has performed as a soloist with more than 40 orchestras, including the National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Staatskapelle Weimar in Germany and Russian Symphony Orchestra. Cunningham has been the New Hampshire Philharmonic's principal clarinetist since 1985. She has performed with New England Symphony Orchestra, Nashua Symphony Orchestra, New England Wind Symphony and more, and she directs the high school concert and marching and jazz bands for the Merrimack School District.

The New Hampshire Philharmonic, the oldest orchestra in the state, has been performing since 1905. Led by Princiotti, who studied at Juilliard, Yale and Tanglewood with conductors including the legendary Leonard Bernstein and Seiji Ozawa, the 55-person orchestra is comprised of professional soloists, adult amateur musicians and a dozen high school and college students. This structure allows the students a "rich education process through the rehearsal process," says Paul Hoffman, executive director of the organization.

Hoffman has worked with the organization for the past 10 years.

"We've really built something, and taking New Hampshire audiences on a musical journey has been really fun," he said.

"The audiences are really responsive. ... Once we get them to trust us — that we're going provide a strong musical product — they will come along with us."

Hoffman says that the "Firebird" portion of the program will feature the orchestra performing Stravinsky's 25-minute piece. Twenty-foot images of student artwork from the "Drawn to the Music" project will be projected on a screen above the stage as the orchestra plays. The project, which is in its sixth year, asks children all over the state to listen to the chosen piece of music at school or at home, draw something related to the piece that moves them, and submit their work to the orchestra, which performs three to four times per season and alternates between the Palace and Stockbridge Theatre at Pinkerton Academy in Derry.

Over the years, more than 3,000 students from 35 Granite State schools have participated in the project, Hoffman said. This year, 100 drawings by children from kindergarten through sixth grade from 10 New Hampshire schools will be presented during the concert, Hoffman said. Represented schools will include Bedford's Memorial Elementary School, Concord Community Music School, Epping Elementary School and Manchester's St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Elementary School.

These drawings will tell the full story of "Firebird," Hoffman said. "Every year it's a different piece. There is a lot of great music out there, and we try to pick a piece that will present a compelling experience to adult concert-goers. We're [looking for] really big, important, substantial works in the classical repertoire that benefit from having a visual guide."

Hoffman says that the project is a beneficial experience for the kids, and that adult concert-goers have sung its praises, as well.

"We hear back that the adults actually find the music much more powerful because they see the visualizations by the kids," Hoffman said. "This isn't [a] family afternoon matinee; it's a master works concert. The kids illuminate the music, adding a whole other layer to the concert."

Hoffman says this year's drawings use bold imagery and rich colors, to which the music is well-suited. It's fun to see the students' imaginations go on a journey with the fairytale, he said.



New Hampshire Philharmonic music director and conductor Anthony Princiotti. Photo courtesy of Keith Spiro.

The best part of being executive director of the organization is imagining what kind of experience the audience will have at each of its concerts, Hoffman said.

"There are emotional ups and downs," he said. "It is music in real time, and there is an arc to it. ... It's fun for me to be in conversation with [Princiotti] about what the audience is going to experience. We try to give something that's heartfelt and sincere."

"At the heart of our organization, we feel that every human needs an honest emotional experience," Hoffman added. "We can help provide those authentic emotional experiences through the music."

New Hampshire Philharmonic concert

When: Saturday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m. Guests can view students' artwork in the reception room of the theater beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester

Cost: \$15-\$50

More info: Call 668-5588, or visit nhphil.org or palacetheatre.org.

22 Classical

Includes symphony and orchestral performances. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

CLASSICAL LISTINGS

- **FIREBIRD** NH Philharmonic will perform Sat., April 28, at 7 p.m. at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org. Tickets are \$15-\$50.
- **THE BARNSTORMERS** will perform a free concert Sat., April 28, at 7:30 p.m. at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral (650 Hanover St., Manchester).
- **"A DAY IN PARADISE"** will be presented by the Concord Chorale Sat., April 28, at 8 p.m. at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church (21 Centre St., Concord) and Sun., April 29, at 3 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church (274 Pleasant St., Concord). Tickets are \$15-\$20. Visit concord-chorale.org.
- **ANDOVER CHAMBER MUSIC** will be presented Sun., April 29, at 2 and 4 p.m., at the Music Hall Loft, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusic-hall.org. Tickets are \$35.
- **UNH WIND SYMPHONY** will perform in concert Sun., April 29, at 3 p.m. in the Johnson Theatre of the Paul Creative Arts Center in Dur-

ham. Free. Call 862-2404, or visit unh.edu/music.

- **THE SALVATION ARMY'S** Pendel Brass Band & Singers will perform Fri., May 4, at 7 p.m. at The Salvation Army Nashua Corps (1 Montgomery Ave., Nashua).
- **STRAFFORD WIND SYMPHONY** will perform Fri., May 4, at 7 p.m. at Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, 335-1992. Tickets cost \$12 (\$7 for children under 12).
- **SPRING POPS CONCERT** by the Lowell Philharmonic Orchestra Fri., May 4, at 8 p.m. at Pawtucket Congregational Church (15 Mammoth Road, Lowell, Mass.). Free and open to the public.
- **NH MASTER CHORALE** will present "My Flight for Heaven" Fri., May 4, at 8 p.m. at South Congregational Church in Concord; Sat., May 5, at 7 p.m. at Phillips Exeter Academy; and Sun., May 6, at 4 p.m. at Plymouth Congregational Church. Tickets are \$20-\$25. Visit nhmasterchorale.org.
- **SOUHEGAN VALLEY CHORUS** will present its spring concert

23 Theater

Includes listings, shows, auditions, workshops and more. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

Sat., May 5, at 7 p.m. and Sun., May 6, at 2 p.m. in Milford Town Hall Auditorium. Admission is \$10-\$15. Visit souheganvalleychorus.org.

- **"LOVE IS IN THE AIR:** From Solomon to Sammy Cahn" will be presented by the Suncook Valley Chorale Fri., May 11, and Sat., May 12, at 7 p.m. at First Congregational Church (177 N. Main St., Concord, 774-3751, svcnh.org). Tickets are \$12-\$15.
- **LOOKING IN** Nashua Symphony will be performed Sat., May 12, at 8 p.m. at the Keefe Memorial Auditorium, 117 Elm St., Nashua, 595-9156, nashuasymphony.org. Tickets cost \$12-\$27.
- **PASSION AT THE SYMPHONY & SILENT AUCTION** Concert will be performed Sat., May 12, at 8 p.m. at the Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord, 226-4776, gso.org. Tickets cost \$10 to \$35.
- **RONAN TYNAN**, called "America's Irish tenor," will perform at the Palace Theatre on Thurs., May 17, at 7:30 p.m., 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org.

org. Tickets are \$24.50-\$59.50.

- **GREAT WATERS MUSIC FESTIVAL** (15 Varney Road, Wolfboro) will feature a chorus and orchestra performance Aug. 4 and a tenor concert Aug. 10. Call 569-7710, or visit greatwaters.org.

Open calls/workshops/other

- **WORLD HARMONY CHORUS** Windborne Trio musicians Lynn and Will Rowan invite teen and adult men and women to join the World Harmony Keene Community chorus for 12 weeks of instruction (began Feb. 1), Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m. at Keene Unitarian Church, 69 Washington St., Keene, 802-451-0425, mahoney.rowan@gmail.com. Tuition is \$150 for 12 weeks or \$15 per rehearsal.
- **CHILDREN'S CHOIR** Manchester Community Music School will host an 8-week children's choir session (began April 18). Ages 7-10/Grades 2-5. Visit mcmusic-school.org.
- **LOOKING FOR NEW SINGERS** Two Rivers Community Choir is accepting new singers (ages 17+)

24 Art

Includes listings for gallery events, ongoing exhibits and classes. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

On stage



A cappella evening

The Garrison Players will host a full evening of *a cappella* Saturday, April 28, at 8 p.m. at the Garrison Players Arts Center (Route 4, Rollinsford, 750-4ART, www.garrisonplayers.org). The performers will be Talk To The Hand, a four-woman group that sings everything from pop to country, and Tuckermans at 9 (pictured), a seven-person group that "performs *a cappella* versions of well-known pop, rock, blues, and light jazz favorites, mostly from the 1960s to today," according to a press release. "This really is a show for all ages and a wide range of musical tastes. There's something for everyone." Tickets are \$12-\$18.

for spring semester through Sun., April 29. Rehearsals are Sundays, 3-5 p.m., in Peterborough. Call 924-9527.

- **CALL FOR SINGERS** Suncook Valley Chorale is starting its spring session of rehearsals for a concert in May. Rehearsals are Monday evenings. Visit svcnh.org.

- **CATHEDRAL CHOIR** of St. Joseph Cathedral, 145 Lowell St., Manchester, will audition new members. Rehearsals are Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. and the choir performs Sundays, at 10:30 a.m. Solemn Mass. Call 622-6404, ext. 31, or e-mail ebermani@stjosephcathedralnh.org.

Curtain Calls

• **Auditions for *Oliver!*** will be held Monday, May 14, and Tuesday, May 15, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Hillsboro-Deering Middle School (6 Hillcat Drive, Hillsboro). The musical will be presented in August by the Hillcat Community Theatre as part of its 50th-anniversary season and the Hillsboro Living History celebration. The production, written by Lionel Bart, premiered in London in 1962 “and has become a musical theatre classic and one of the most produced musicals in the world over the last 50 years,” according to a press release. To make an audition appointment, call 568-5102, or e-mail dunn.t@comcast.net.

• **New Hampshire Philharmonic** recently announced the winners of the 10th Annual Libby Youth Concerto Competition. The three young artists — Concord cellist Jan Fuller, Candia violist Anna Philbrick and Exeter bassoonist Isaac Schultz — will be featured in the organization’s concerts next season. “There’s no better way to celebrate the arts in New Hampshire than to spotlight the next generation of talent,” wrote Anthony Princiotti, New Hampshire Philharmonic’s music direc-

tor and conductor, in a press release. “The orchestra has a strong music education outreach program and this competition provides an enriching experience and an important developmental path for young area musicians.” For more, visit nhphil.org.

• **Meredith Willson’s *The Music Man*** will be presented by the Windham Actors Guild Friday, April 27, and Saturday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, April 29, at 2 p.m. at Windham High School Theater (64 London Bridge Road, Windham). The well-known musical tells the story of traveling salesman and con artist Harold Hill and his visit to River City, Iowa. The production will be directed by James Ferguson. Tickets are \$12-\$15. For more, visit windhamactorsguild.com.

• ***An American Millionaire*** will be presented by the Majestic Theatre on Friday, April 27, and Saturday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, April 29, at 1:30 p.m. The dinner/dessert theater production, which will be directed by Kevin Barrett, will be held at the Chateau Function Facility (201 Hanover St., Manchester). The show tells the story of “the millionaire co-owner of a textile plant who seems to have all that one could wish for — but who finds himself thoroughly miserable,” according to a press release. Tickets are \$22-\$35. For more, call 669-7469, or visit majestictheatre.net.

—Michelle Cerulli

• **CONCORD COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL** (23 Wall St., Concord, 228-1196) is offering an ongoing series of workshops and performances this spring. For more, visit cmusicschool.org.

• **THE MERRIMACK CHORUS** meets Sundays 7-9 p.m. at the John O’Leary Adult Community Center, 4 Church St., Merrimack. Call Choral Director Jamie Saucier at 828-6739. The Merrimack Concert Band meets Tuesdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m., at the Merrimack Middle School band room, 31 Madeline Bennett Lane, Merrimack. Call Band Director Lelia Dutton at 429-8328.

• **RHYTHM OF NH SHOW CHORUS** will hold open rehearsals for all women on Thursdays at 6:45 p.m. at the Marion Gerish Community Center, 39 W. Broadway, Derry, 800-696-7351, rnhchorus.org. All voice parts are welcome, but the group is especially interested in those women who can sing melody (lead).

• **SEEKING BAND AND CHORAL MEMBERS** The Merrimack Concert Association invites adult musicians and high school students to join its concert band and chorus. Visit merrimackconcert.org.

• **SEEKING MUSICIANS** The Amherst Town Band seeks musicians on all instruments. The band rehearses Tuesdays 7:30-9 p.m. in the choral room at Souhegan High School, 412 Boston Post Road, Amherst, amhersttownband.org. Most members are amateur musicians.

• **SUMMER MUSIC CAMP** registrations are now being accepted for Concord Community Music School (23 Wall St., Concord, 228-1196) Jazz Camp and Creative Arts Camp. For dates and cost or to register, visit cmusicschool.org.

THEATER LISTINGS

• **MENOPAUSE: THE MUSICAL** will be performed through Thurs., April 26, at 7:30 p.m., at the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44

On stage



Man of La Mancha

High Mowing School, a Waldorf high school for day and boarding students in Wilton, will present *Man of La Mancha* Thursday, April 26, through Saturday, April 28, at 7 p.m. at the Pine Hill Waldorf School Auditorium (Abbot Hill Road, Wilton). The musical, written by Dale Wasserman with music by Mitch Leigh and lyrics by Joe Darion, will bring the “hope and disillusionment” of “the ‘mad’ knight Don Quixote” to New Hampshire through song, according to a press release. Tickets are \$8-\$12. For more, call 654-2391 or visit highmowing.org. Pictured: Student-actors Ellie Davis and Sam Bernstein.

S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com. Tickets \$35-\$52.

• **MAN OF LA MANCHA** will be presented by High Mowing School Thurs., April 26-Sat., April 28, at 7 p.m. at the Pine Hill Waldorf School Auditorium (Abbot Hill Road, Wilton, 654-2391, highmowing.org). Tickets are \$8-\$12.

• **AN AMERICAN MILLIONAIRE** Dinner theater will be held Fri., April 27-Sun., April 29, at the Chateau Function Facility, 201 Hanover St., Manchester, 669-7469, majestictheatre.net.

• **THE MUSIC MAN** will be presented by Windham Actors Guild Fri., April 27, and Sat., April 28, at 7:30 p.m., and Sun., April 29, at 2 p.m. at Windham High School Theater. Tickets are \$12-\$15. Visit windhamactorsguild.com.

• **HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS Without Really Trying** will be performed by the Middlesex Community College Theater Department through Sun., April 29, in its theater (5 E. Merrimack St., Lowell, Mass.). Call 978-458-5429, or visit middlesex.mass.edu/performingarts.

• **CAP’N SIMEON’S STORE** & other stories will be performed by

Pontine Theatre Fri., April 27-Sun., May 13, at Pontine’s West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth, 436-6660, pontine.org. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 4 and 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$24.

• **GARRISON PLAYERS A CAPPELLA** show Sat., April 28, at 8 p.m. at the Garrison Players Arts Center (Route 4, Rollinsford, 750-4ART, garrisonplayers.org). Tickets are \$12-\$18.

• **SKIPPYJON JONES** will be performed Tues., May 1, at 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. at the Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 433-3100, ext. 6013, themusichall.org.

• **PHANTOM LIMB COMPANY** presents *69° South: The Shackleton Project* as part of the Capitol Center for the Arts’ (44 S. Main St., Concord) William C Gile Series Wed., May 2, at 7:30 p.m. Free, but register at ccanh.com.

• **THE PANTHER PLAYERS** of Nashua High School South will present *All Shook Up* Fri., May 4, at 7:30 p.m. and Sat., May 5, at 1:30 and 7:30 p.m. in the Nashua High School South Auditorium (36 Riverside St., Nashua, 589-1547). Tickets are \$10.



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ART

Tibetan monks bring art

Try a Buddhist center workshop on painting, sculpture

By Michelle Cerulli
mcerulli@hippopress.com

Newmarket's Aryaloka Buddhist Center will play host for a third time to a group of Tibetan monks Friday, April 27.

During their short visit, the Tibetan monks, who are from the Drepung Gomang Monastery in India, will hold a series of arts and cultural events for the public, including traditional Tibetan arts workshops and a discussion about their monastery and the current conditions facing Tibetan refugees.

The visit is part of the monks' fundraising tour to the U.S., which also includes local stops in Nashua and Concord. The last visit to the Newmarket center was made last summer by eight monks, said Shrijana Sering, the center's public relations manager.

The group will arrive on Thursday evening for a welcome dinner as well as meditation and chanting with Aryaloka Buddhist Center members. The public portion of the visit will take place Friday with two sessions of butter sculpture, mani stone painting and sand painting workshops. Attendees will have the option of participating in up to two workshops — all designed for all ages and levels of experience — per two-hour session.

Part of the mission of the monastery, which houses mostly Tibetan refugee monks, is keeping Tibetan culture alive, Sering said.

The monks will guide attendees through the arts workshops, providing displays and demonstrations of how to complete each craft. Butter sculptures, which symbolize the Buddhist teaching of impermanence, are traditionally made with yak butter or wax, ghee and fat in refugee Tibetan communities where the weather is often warmer. The sculptures are made for the Tibetan New Year and for the Great Prayer Festival and are bright and colorful, often forming the shapes of flowers.

Guests will have the option of making butter sculpture designs such as flowers, conch shells and jewels and will work with Play-Doh in place of the traditional, and perhaps messier, materials.

"We will also make mani stones, which [can be] small enough to hold in the palm of your hand," said Sering, who has been involved with the Buddhist center for about 25 years. "Mani stones have a mantra on them. You can find them all over Tibet."

Attendees will have the chance to paint mani stones, which are traditionally painted with the prayer "Om mani padme hum," which asks for "wisdom, compassion and a good heart." The sand painting workshops will teach people to create designs including snow lions, fire patterns and Buddhism's eight auspicious symbols, using the same techniques the monks use to make the traditional Sacred Sand Mandala.

Friday programs will conclude with a slide show and discussion about the monastery and the situation of Tibetan refugees in India, Sering said.

Past visits from Drepung Gomang's monks have been well-attended, she added: "Many people who had never been to the Buddhist center before came."



Monks from the Drepung Gomang Monastery in India. Photo courtesy of Aryaloka Buddhist Center

She says one of the primary reasons for hosting the monks is "to show good will and good faith to Buddhists of all different traditions." She also cited a concern for Tibetan culture: "It's our way to show support for them religiously and culturally."

Aryaloka Buddhist Center has been teaching and practicing Buddhism in Newmarket for the past 25 years. Sering says there is something for everyone, including meditation, retreats and other classes for people of all levels. The center was originally a retreat space for the main center, which was located in Boston, but the New Hampshire location quickly became the center's flagship space. Aryaloka is part of the Triratna Buddhist Community, which has centers throughout the Northeast as well as internationally.

Sering herself first became involved with the center through attending an introductory meditation class.

"I didn't know anything about the religion," she said. "But [Buddhist] meditation has had such a profound effect in my life. ... I got more and more involved."

Sering says that the center has between 30 and 40 ordained members who participate and teach classes. A few hundred people participate regularly, she added.

She looks forward to the monks' upcoming visit, she said.

"The monks have been very warm and friendly," Sering said of their past visits. "It's very enjoyable being in their presence and just sitting in the same room with them."

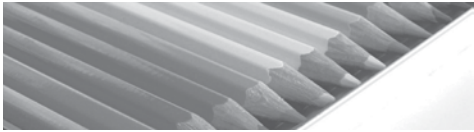
Tibetan Cultural Event, a visit from Drepung Gomang Monastery monks

When: Friday, April 27. Workshops will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Slide show and discussion will begin at 7 p.m.

Where: Aryaloka Buddhist Center, 14 Heartwood Circle, Newmarket

Cost: Open to the public. A \$5 fee for materials will be requested for each arts workshop. Donations will be accepted.

For more: Call 659-5456, or visit aryaloka.org/2012/03/27/drepung-gomang-monks-visit-2



LOCAL COLOR

• **The Currier Museum of Art's** (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, currier.org) current major exhibition, "A New Vision: Modernist Photography," will close Sunday, May 13. The exhibit, curated by Kurt Sundstrom, showcases more than 150 works by roughly 70 photographers, taking "visitors on a journey from the beginning of the modernist movement in the 1920s to modernism's influence on contemporary photography," according to a press release. The exhibit includes Rudy Burckhardt's "Flat Iron Building, 1948" as well as work by New England photographers Carl Hyatt of Portsmouth and Paul Caponigro of Cushing, Maine. "Modernist photographers expanded the visual vocabulary of art — making everyday objects — from grass, drying laundry, machinery and lumber to details of the human body — subjects worthy of artistic interest," wrote Sundstrom in the press release. The museum is open daily except Tuesdays. Admission is \$8-\$10 (children 17 and younger get in free).

• **Five area students** recently received 2012 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards and will be recognized at New York City's Carnegie Hall. The program honors "outstanding creative teenagers and offers scholarship opportunities for graduating high school seniors," according to a press release. The New Hampshire winners are Conval Regional High School senior Gilan Doty, The Dublin School senior JooHee Ui, Keene High School senior Allison Gardner, Pinkerton Academy senior Max Norton,

and Winnacunnet High School senior Jordan Firkey. The students' submitted work ranged from paintings and drawings to mixed media, ceramics and glass work, and an art portfolio. "The 2012 Scholastic Art & Writing Award winners have once again proven the broad and brilliant capacity of our nation's teens to produce exquisite works of art and writing," wrote Virginia McEnerney, executive director of the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, which administers the awards, in a press release. Past Scholastic Art & Writing Award recipients have included Robert Redford, Andy Warhol, Truman Capote, John Lithgow, Joyce Carol Oates, Zac Posen, Sylvia Plath and Abdi Farah. For more, visit artandwriting.org.

• **Strawbery Banke Museum** (14 Hancock St., Portsmouth, 433-1100) will present "Thread: Stories of Fashion at Strawberry Banke, 1740-2012" from May 1 through Oct. 31. The exhibition of textiles and costumes will tell the story of the people who lived in Portsmouth's Puddle Dock neighborhood. The exhibition will also showcase new fashion designs inspired by the museum's collection, with designers including Emma Hope, Philip Treacy, Katerina Lankova, Chesley McLaren, Lily Zane and members of The Milliners Guild of New York. A Passion for Fashion Gala showcasing these designs will be held this summer. Museum admission is \$10-\$15 (free for kids younger than 5). For more, visit strawberybanke.org. —Michelle Cerulli

• **THE MOUSETRAP** will be performed Fri., May 4, and Sat., May 5, at 8 p.m. and Sun., May 6, at 2 p.m. at Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord, community-playersofconcord.org.
• **CHICAGO** will be performed by Actorsingers Fri., May 4-Sun., May 6, at the Keefe Auditorium (117 Elm St., Nashua, 320-1870, actorsingers.org). Tickets are \$18-\$20.
• **LEGALLY BLONDE THE MUSICAL** at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org) Fri., May 4-Sat., May 19. Tickets \$15-\$45.
• **ANNE OF GREEN GABLES THE MUSICAL** will be presented by the Boys & Girls Club of Souhegan Valley's Riverbend School of Theater Arts Thurs., May 10-Sun., May 13. Call 465-3456, or e-mail tobyarnow@yahoo.com.

Auditions/open calls

• **CALLING ALL PLAY-WRIGHTS** The Players' Ring, 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, playersring.org, invites playwrights to submit plays for 2012 season and the Late Night Summer Series. E-mail scripts to djmrllro@aol.com.

Workshops/other

• **SUMMER BALLET INTENSIVE** with Tatiana Tchernova June 18-22 and June 25-29 at Green Street Community Center, 39 Green St., Concord, 746-2990, petitapillon.org. Tuition is \$230 per week for two classes per day, \$115 per week for one class per day, or \$25 for a single class.
• **ACTING FOR THE CAMERA**

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Artist for April

Brentwood's Roger Goun is Seacoast Artist Association's (225 Water St., Exeter, 778-8856, seacoastartist.org) featured artist for April and May. Goun will exhibit a selection of his work from the past five years, including photographs from the Seacoast and White Mountains as well as the West Coast and Japan. "The goal of each of my images is to convey to the viewer what I saw, and how I felt about what I saw, at the moment that the original photo was made," wrote Goun, a former software engineer, in a press release. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. To learn more about the artist, visit rogergoun.org. Pictured: Goun's "Memorial Bridge, Portsmouth, NH, April 2009."

classes at Whitebridge Farm Productions (whitebridgefarmproductions.com). Year-round six-week sessions are available for this acting workshop. After successful completion, participants will be invited to enroll in "The Screen Test" workshop with Academy Award winner Ernest Thompson. For dates and locations, call Lori at 744-3652 or e-mail at info@whitebridgefarmproductions.com.
• **COMMUNITY DRUMMING** will be held the 2nd and 3rd Thursday of the month, 4:45-5:45 p.m. at the Queen City Ballroom, 21 Dow St., 2nd floor, Manchester, 647-0622, thevillagedrum@aol.com. Class costs \$15.

• **PLAYREADING CIRCLE** most second Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-

6030, rodgerslibrary.org.

ART LISTINGS

Art events

• **GALLERY AND ARTIST TALKS** hosted by Paul Creative Arts Center's Museum of Art in a public series called "ArtBreak" Thurs., April 26, and Wed., May 9, at noon, 30 Academic Way, UNH, Durham, 862-3712, unh.edu/moa.
• **POP UP GALLERY** at Newmarket Mills (55 Main St., Newmarket) will be presented by the New Hampshire Art Association through Sun., April 29.
• **ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW** featuring pottery, wooden bowls, miniature oil paintings and more Sat., May 5, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. and Sun., May 6, noon-3 p.m. at Maxfield Public Library (8 Rt. 129, Loudon, 798-5153).

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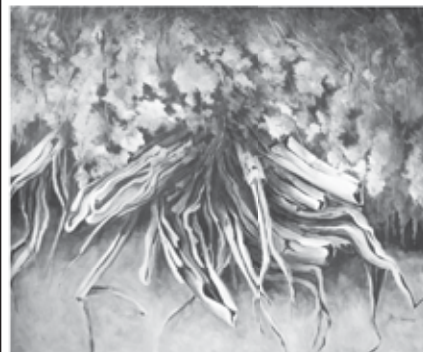
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Tramway Handles, Boris Ignatovich, 1930s. Photo © Estate of Boris Ignatovich/RAO, Moscow/VAGA, New York.

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• **FIRST THURSDAYS** The Currier Museum of Art is open late from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., first Thursday of each month with special programs including live music, lectures and film, at 150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, ext. 108, currier.org.

• **GOOD NEIGHBOR SERIES** Sharon Arts Center is hosting a series of cultural programs at its Exhibition Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough, 924-7676, sharon-arts.org. The series is open to the public and will feature presentations by professional artists on the first and third Saturdays of the month, 7-9:30 p.m.

• **PICKER ART GALLERY** will host an open studio/meet the artists day on the first Saturday of the month, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Picker Building, 99 Factory St. Extension, Nashua, 305-6256.

• **ZIMMERMAN HOUSE** open for public tours, leaving from the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, currier.org). Offered twice daily. Reservations required. Cost is \$8-\$20 (includes same day museum admission).

Gallery openings

• **LAMONT GALLERY** (11 Tan Lane, Exeter, 777-3461, exeter.edu/arts/9140.aspx) at Phillips Exeter Academy will present "Joyce Tenneson Selected Works: 2002-2011" through Fri., May 4. Artist reception Fri., April 27, 6:30-8 p.m. Gallery talk Sat., April 28, at 10 a.m. Free and open to the public. Gallery hours are Mon., 1-5 p.m., and Tues.-Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

• **MILL BROOK GALLERY & SCULPTURE GARDEN** (236 Hopkinton Road, Concord, 226-2046, themillbrookgallery.com) will present "In the Grain" through Sun., Aug. 19. Opening reception Sun., April 29, 3-6 p.m. Gallery hours are Tues.-Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

• **TRIO** will be presented by McGowan Fine Art (10 Hills Ave., Concord, 225-2515) Tues., May 1-Fri., June 1. Opening reception Fri., May 4, 5-7 p.m. Free.

• **RICHARD WIDHU** paintings will be on display in the Image Gallery at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610) during May and June. Opening reception Sat., May 5, 3-5 p.m. Free and open to the public.

• **VINEYARD COMMUNITY CHURCH** (150 Dow St., Manchester, manchestervineyard.com) will present community artwork in its gallery beginning in May to benefit Invisible Children. For more, call 624-4080, or e-mail rodchron@gmail.com.

In the galleries

• **A GROUP EXHIBIT** will be presented for the first time at the gallery at Washington Street Mills (1 Washington St., 3rd Floor West, Dover) through Fri., April 27.

• **ABOUT FACE** New paintings by Kendra O'Donnell will be on display through Fri., April 27, at the Robert M. Larsen Gallery at Sulloway & Hollis, 29 School St., Concord, 225-2515.

• **SANDY WADLINGTON'S** new works will be on display at McGowan Fine Art through Fri., April 27, 10 Hills Ave., Concord, 225-2515, mcgowanfineart.com.

• **COMING OF AGE:** "New England Artists Under 30" will be presented by Sharon Arts Center through Sat., April 28, in its Exhibition Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough, sharonarts.org.

• **TRACEY SMITH** photography will be on display at Epsom Pub-

In a gallery near you



Paint Manchester

Manchester's own Aline Lotter will host "Paint Manchester," a *Plein Air* (open air) oil painting workshop, Friday, May 4, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Sage Gallery (70

Lowell St., Manchester, 626-7243). Lotter's workshop will include an outdoor demo, student painting, lunch break, and critique and review. The concept is "a one-day structured workshop in painting using oils to paint from life, *en plein air* [in] downtown Manchester," according to a gallery press release. All student artwork will be on display in the gallery for one month. Cost is \$75. Deadline to apply is Tuesday, May 1. Pictured: Lotter's "Changing Seasons."

In a gallery near you



NH art at Amherst library

"Right Here in New Hampshire" will feature paintings, photographs and drawings that depict the Granite State's landscapes and scenery

at the Amherst Town Library during April. Featured artists, all from New Hampshire, include James Mcaveaney, Elaine Holden, Sharon and Bruce Beckley, Jan Miller, Margaret Waterman, Howard Muscott, Irene Quinlan, Hazel Milligan, Mary Salmon and Susan Peterson. For more, visit www.amherst.lib.nh.us.

lic Library through Sat., April 28, 736-9920, epsomlibrary.com.

• **BRIAN SIMM** artwork celebrating New Hampshire's woods and mountains will be on display at the Conservation Center in Concord through Mon., April 30. Open for viewing Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. in the center's conference room, 54 Portsmouth St., Concord. Call 224-9945 before visit to confirm room is open.

• **CANAL ART & FRAMING** (1 Water St., Nashua, 886-1459, canalframing.com) will present work by Sophia White through Mon., April 30. Shop hours are Mon. and Sat., 11 a.m.-4 p.m., and Tues.-Fri., 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

• **RUTH ANN ESCH** photography on display at the Smyth Library (55 High St., Candia, 483-8245, smyth-pl.org) through Mon., April 30.

• **HOLLIS ARTS SOCIETY** features Anne Wilholm as its April Artist of the Month at the RE/MAX Properties Gallery (2 Ash St., Hollis).

• **IMAGES OF NEW ENGLAND**, a photography exhibit by Paul Mangold, will be on display through April at Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4600, nashualibrary.org.

• **RIGHT HERE IN N.H.** art exhibit depicting New Hampshire scenery will be on display at Amherst Town Library (14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288) through April.

• **SALLY CORNWELL** is the April Artist of the Month at Exeter Fine Crafts (61 Water St., Exeter, 778-8282). Gallery hours are Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

• **A NEW VISION: MODERNIST PHOTOGRAPHY** will be on display through Sun., May 13, at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, currier.org. Gallery hours are Sunday, Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission \$10 (\$9 for seniors; \$8 for students; free for age 17 and younger).

• **HEATSTROKES** Caribbean-inspired art by Ann Trainor

Domingue will be on exhibit at Framers Market (1301 Elm St., Manchester, 668-6989) through Sat., May 26. Gallery hours are Tues.-Fri., 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat., 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

• **"CYCLES"** will be presented by Art 3 Gallery (44 West Brook St., Manchester, 668-6650, art3gallery.com) through Fri., July 6. Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and weekends by appointment.

• **MARIPOSA MUSEUM** exhibit "Becoming — The Child's Journey to Adulthood," will be on display through mid-July, 26 Main St., Peterborough, 924-4555, mariposamuseum.org.

• **LANDSCAPES EXHIBIT** New Hampshire Antique Co-op and Jason Samuel Fine Art & Antiques will present "Landscapes of the White Mountain and Hudson River Schools" through Fri., Aug. 31, at the co-op, 323 Elm St., Milford, 673-8499, nhantiquecoop.com.

• **ART IN THE MILL**, an exhibit of rotating artwork in the UNH Manchester library (400 Commercial St., Manchester, 641-4101, manchester.unh.edu/campuslife/public-programs/art-mill), presents photographs from Greece and Turkey by NH Institute of Art graduate Elizabeth Ellenwood. Free and open to the public.

• **DARLENE ROBYN** will showcase new Asian-inspired mixed media work at Hatfield Gallery (55 S. Commercial St., Manchester, 627-7560). Gallery hours are Tues.-Fri., 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and Sat., 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

• **NEW RETROSPECTIVE WORKS** by Roger Croteau at Hatfield Gallery, 55 S. Commercial St., Manchester, 627-7560. Open Tues., Thurs., and Fri., 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Sat., 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

• **TRANSFORMATION** Photographic work of David MacEachran and Alicia Bergeron on display at Silver Light Gallery, 28 Main St., Suite 2, Goffstown, 497-4674, silverhillsstudio.com.



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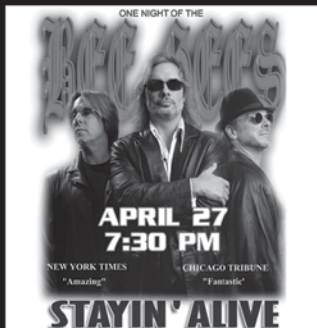
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INSIDE/OUTSIDE

ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, WORKSHOPS, VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES, EVENTS TO KEEP YOU HEALTHY AND MORE

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42 Taco tour!

May 3 is Hippo de Mayo! Start preparing now for the world's largest taco tour, in downtown Manchester PLUS NH Butternut Farm gets more dairy; Concord Hospital redefines "hospital food"; Weekly Dish; Red, White & Green (good bottles for less than \$20); Perishables, From the Pantry, Just Desserts and Stefanie Phillips on wine,

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It's Free Comic Book Day!

Star Wars Day and Avengers make weekend a nerd trifecta

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

It will be a dream weekend for geeks everywhere.

Free Comic Book Day 2012 on Saturday, May 5, will be even more unforgettable than the Free Comic Book Days of yore — not only is it the 10th anniversary of the international event (should we call it a holiday?), but it's also the same weekend that the much-anticipated movie *The Avengers* is being released. As if it could get any more exciting, Star Wars Day falls on the same weekend this year (May the Fourth be with you).

Double Midnight Comics (47 Maple St., Manchester) will celebrate the "best day of the year" with its own 10th anniversary.

"You don't have to buy anything, you don't have to have a password, or anything like that," said Chris Proulx of Double Midnight Comics. His store is celebrating the event all weekend long — its staffers will be working the Hippo de Mayo Taco Tour on Thursday, May 3, dressed as Avengers comic book characters, getting ready for *The Avengers* midnight show. The business will also offer "Comic Book Night" on Friday after 6 p.m., which will showcase comics for more mature audiences that won't be offered on Saturday's family-friendly event — *The Walking Dead*, for instance, will be given away Friday night, instead of Saturday.

The store opens on Saturday at 10 a.m. Kids and grown-ups will be cruising the explosion of comics all day long.

"There really is something for everybody," Proulx said: superheroes, the Smurfs, Sonic the Hedgehog, Tinkerbelle, Disney, The Simpsons and more. Atomic Robo artist Scott Wegener will be at the store all day, as well, signing autographs and giving away some of his own comics and sketches.

"It's like a holiday for us — we present the best of comic books and get to share them with the world. Lots of people know all of the characters, but they don't necessarily know how to sample them," he said. It's also a chance for people who don't typically buy or read comic

books to give it a try.

Harrison's Comics and Pop Culture (in the Mall of New Hampshire, 1500 S. Willow St., Manchester, 626-3003) will be giving away free comics and hosting eight artists who will be doing signings and sketches and showcasing their work, including Hannibal King (Dungeons and Dragons/Magic the Gathering Cards) and Christopher Uminga (Living Dead Dolls, Marvel).

Comics Plus (3 Church St., Goffstown) will be celebrating Free Comic Book Day with two more comic book artists: Chad Hardin, who has worked with Marvel and DC, and Lee Wiley, whose art is featured in various independent books. Visitors will also get to meet Captain America, Catwoman, Spider-Man and Supergirl at the event. In this special Avengers/Star Wars/Comic Book day event, Comics Plus will also be hosting visitor Garret Wang, who played Harry Kim on *Star Trek Voyager*. Come meet him in person, get an autograph and snap a photo with him.

The biggest event in New Hampshire, though, will be at Jetpack Comics LLC (37 N. Main St., Rochester).

Jetpack Comics makes it a community event — the day starts at 10 a.m., when Free Comic Book Day attendees will pick up their maps and cards to be stamped at the two dozen businesses around downtown Rochester taking part. Comic bookers will then visit each participating business to get their cards signed or stamped. Afterward, they can pick up their free comics at the store. Every year the business runs out of comic books, said Ralph DiBernardo of Jetpack Comics, so he advises visitors to come early to avoid lines and leaving empty-handed. Each visitor can receive as many as 30 different comic books.

Mouse Guard's David Peterson will be at the event from 2 to 4 p.m., and comic book fans can get a free hardcover copy of *Mouse Guard* signed by the artist himself. Justin Jordan and Tradd More (Luther Stride) will also be at the convention hall 2 to 4 p.m., as will Jason Ciarabella (The Cape) and Tyler James (The Red Ten).

Add this to the Magic the Gathering tour-



Spidey takes a break to read his free comic at Double Midnight Comics. Courtesy photo.

nement and the costumed characters lining the streets, and you've got the second-biggest event in Rochester.

But to DiBernardo, it's not just a day to celebrate comic books or to advertise. For him, it's about bringing the community together.

"When we opened up a few years ago, I wanted to figure out a way to give back to the community, to make downtown a place for everybody," he said. "It gets families into the businesses they might not have known existed, and it creates new customers for them, as well," he said.

Concord residents can get their Mouse Guard, Superman, Spider-Man, Yo Gabba Gabba, Donald Duck and Buffy the Vampire Slayer at Liberty Books and Comics (75 Allison St., Concord).

Newbury Comics (777 S. Willow St., Manchester) will also be giving out free comic books that night, as will Collectibles Unlimited (25 South St., Concord) and The Comic Store (115 Northeastern Blvd., Nashua, 881-4855).

Free Comic Book began in 2002 as a grassroots event and has gone international, coordinated by the comic book industry's largest distributor, Diamond Comic Distributors. Visit freecomicbookday.com.

CHILDREN & TEENS

Events

- **SPRING FLOWERS DROP-IN CRAFT** for ages 4-10 on Thurs., April 26, at 2 p.m. at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Register at tinyurl.com/nplkid. Call 594-4610.
- **ROALD DAHL JEOPARDY** on Thurs., April 26, 6-8 p.m. in the Keyes Meeting Room at the Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408. Children grades 2-5 are welcome to celebrate their knowledge of Roald Dahl's books in a fun Jeopardy! game.
- **PUZZLE TIME** on Fri., April 27, at 2 p.m. in the children's room at the Concord Library, 45 Green St., Concord.
- **GREAT GAMES DAY & BOOK GIVE-AWAY** at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, on Fri., April 27, at 2 p.m. Play board games, hard games, puzzles and more. Everyone goes home with a free book. Call 589-4631.

- **HEALTHY KIDS DAY YMCA** on Sun., April 28, noon to 4 p.m. at the YMCA Allard Center, 116 Goffstown Back Road, Goffstown, includes activities, demonstration, rumba, musical entertainment by Mountain View Middle School, dance performances and more. Healthy lunch and snacks provided. Free event. Call 497-4663 or visit yogm.org.
- **WEARE TEA PARTY** for girls 5-12 years old on Sat., May 5, 2-5 p.m. at the Weare Town Hall, 16 N. Stark Highway, Weare. Wear favorite dress-up clothes, make crafts, enjoy cookies, fruit, veggies and tea, listen to story teller Cora Joe Ciampi and more. Cost for this fundraiser is \$15--goes to Weare's 250th anniversary celebration. Call 529-0425.

Nature

- **NATURE JOURNALING WITH SATURDAY TREKS** at the Seacoast Science Center, 570 Ocean Blvd., Rye, on Sat., April 28, 9 a.m. to noon. For

ages 4-7. Journey to the woodlands and salt marsh to collect samples of plants and insects. Kids will write about their findings and sketch in a journal to take home. Cost is \$25. Visit seacoastsciencecenter.org/programs/early_learners or call 436-8043.

- **BIG FISH LITTLE FISH SPRING II SESSION** at the Seacoast Science Center, 570 Ocean Blvd., Rye, on Tuesdays, May 1-22 or Wednesdays, May 2-23, 10-11:30 a.m. Weekly themes include the Great Outdoors, Down and Dirty in the Woodlands, Seashells in my Pocket and Raspberry the Box Turtle. Cost is \$70 for members, \$90 for non-members. Visit seacoastsciencecenter.org/programs/early_learners. Call 436-8043, ext. 18.
- **FAMILY WISE TALKS** at the Seacoast Science Center (570 Ocean Blvd., Rye) on the third Saturday of the month, 2-3:30 p.m. "Mother West Wind" visits from the Green Meadows with stories about the creatures that live at Smiling

Pond and Laughing Brook. Free with Admission. Visit www.seacoastsciencecenter.org/calendar or call 436-8043.

- **SATURDAY TREKS** at the Seacoast Science Center (570 Ocean Blvd., Rye) on the third Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. to noon. For children 4-7. Nature walk — bring camera. Cost is \$35 per child. Visit www.seacoastsciencecenter.org/calendar or call 436-8043.

Science

- **HUBBLE'S EXTRAORDINARY MISSION** on Fri., April 27, at 7 p.m., at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, 2 Institute Drive, Concord. Celebrate the 22nd anniversary of the Hubble Space Telescope's deployment and learn about recent discoveries. Brief look into the future with a look at the James Webb Space Telescope due to launch in 2014. Cost is \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors and students, \$6 for children. Call 271-7827, ext. 110.

• **MARS INTERRUPTED AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER** is a futuristic, live stage drama at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discover Center (2 Institute Dr., Concord) that will be shown every day through Sun., April 29, at 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Free with paid general admission; prices are \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors, \$6 for children. Planetarium shows are an additional \$4. Visit starhop.com or call 271-7827.

• **SECRETS OF CIRCLES EXHIBIT** at the SEE Science Center (200 Bedford St., Manchester, 669-0400, see-sciencecenter.org) will be available for viewing through Sept. 9. Explore the math, science, engineering and culture of circles. Discover what makes the circle the best shape for both pizzas and car wheels, or why bubbles, the sun and the iris of your eye are all circles. Included with regular \$8 admission to the SEE Science Center.

Sports

• **ALL-AGES ARCHERY** with the New England School of Archery and Supplies. Classes are available for ages 7+ throughout the state; equipment provided. Call 672-2845 or e-mail nesaine@aol.com.

• **AMHERST SOCCER CLUB** (P.O. Box 853, Amherst, www.amherstsoccerclub.com) offers soccer programs for children age 3-10. There are also limited spots in boys' and girls' U11-U14 teams. E-mail registrar@amherstsoccerclub.com.

• **ARCHERY LESSONS** offered by Concord Recreation, for beginners and advanced players on Friday evenings or Saturday afternoons for 7-week sessions at East Concord Community Center, Concord. Call 225-8690 or visit www.ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

• **BEDFORD BASKETBALL LEAGUE** (P.O. Box 10351, Bedford, 488-1161, www.bedfordbl.com) offers recreational teams for boys and girls in grades 2-8 and travel teams for boys and girls in grades 3 to 8 along with boys' and girls' biddy basketball for grades 9-12. Children must try out for travel teams.

• **FIELDHOUSE SPORTS** (12 Tallwood Drive, Bow, 226-4646, fieldhousesports.com) offers skills clinics for children 6 and older.

• **MANCHESTER EAST SOCCER LEAGUE** (mesl.org) has teams from U6 to U19.

• **MANCHESTER NORTH SOCCER LEAGUE** (mnsl.org) has teams from U6 to U19.

• **NH GRIZZLIES AAU** baseball program is offering full winter training for 13s. The three-month session will include pitching and hitting during a two-hour weekly practice with former college coaches at a private facility. Slots are limited. E-mail nhgrizzlies@comcast.net. See www.nhgrizzlies.com.

• **NH GRIZZLIES AAU** baseball U14 is looking for a catcher and two positional players. The team offers a full winter workout and a season of games and tournaments. E-mail nhgrizzlies@comcast.net. See www.nhgrizzlies.com.

• **NH SPORTSPLEX** (68 Technology Drive, Bedford, 641-1313, nhsportsplex.com) offers soccer for children 18 months and older (including competitive soccer U8-U16), youth flag football and lacrosse. Call for prices and details.

• **NLP ELITE ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM** Next Level Performance (31 S.

In the spotlight

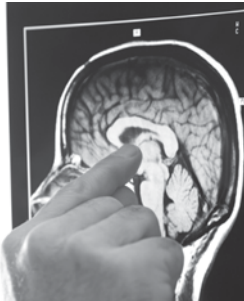


Who's the burpee champ?

Do "Burpees for Beasts" on Saturday, May 12, at Greeley Park in Nashua. CrossFit Nashua is hosting this challenge, in which

people will do 400 meters of burpee broad jumps (available to watch on YouTube; looks like a push-up into a frog jump), starting at 9 a.m. Everyone's invited to watch and donate, or to take part. The first to cross the finish line will win prizes for sponsors. All proceeds go to the Humane Society of Greater Nashua. Register at CrossFitNashua.com. Registration costs \$30, which includes a T-shirt.

In the spotlight



Mental Health Month

A Memorial Tree Lighting Ceremony is set for Saturday, May 5, at Stanton Plaza in front of the Radisson Hotel in Manchester starting at 6 p.m. Personal dedications, yellow ribbons and light bulbs

will adorn the memorial tree for the ceremony and it will remain lighted for one week in honor of National Mental Health Month. Lighting proceeds will benefit the Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester. Purchase memorial dedications in honor of a beloved for \$5 per name. Visit mhcgcm.org for more information or to purchase dedications in an online form.

Commercial St., Manchester, www.nlpspeed.com) Offers classes strength, speed, agility, flexibility and injury prevention for athletes ages 11+ on Mon., Wed., Thurs. and Fri. Call 627-7500.

• **SOCCER DIVISION I** by Concord Recreation for grades 1-2, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 5-6:15 p.m. Cost is \$54. Open to the public, but space is limited. Call 225-8690 or visit www.ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

• **SOCCER DIVISION II** by Concord Recreation for grades 3-4. Games will be played on Tuesday/Thursday and Saturday. Cost is \$54. Open to the public, but space is limited. Call 225-8690 or visit www.ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

• **SOCCER DIVISION III GIRLS** by Concord Recreation for grades 5-6. Cost is \$54. Games will be played on Tuesday/Thursday and Saturday. Open to the public, but space is limited. Call 225-8690 or visit www.ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

• **SOCCER FUNDAMENTALS** offered by Concord Recreation for ages 4-6, on Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost is \$54. Open to Penacook residents. Call 225-8690 or visit www.ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

• **TRI-TOWN ICE ARENA** (311 West River Road, Hooksett, 485-1100, tri-townicearena.com) offers learn to skate for 3-year-olds and up, learn to play hockey for 4- to 9-year-olds, and public skating.

CLUBS

Gardening

• **BOW GARDEN CLUB** holds meetings accompanied by educational programs on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. (social time begins at 6 p.m.) at the Old Town Hall, 91 Bow Center Road, Bow. Guests welcome. Visit

www.bowgardenclub.org or call Lorraine at 774-3596.

• **DERRY GARDEN CLUB** meets monthly in Derry. Call 432-7195 or visit www.derrygardenclub.org.

• **DUNBARTON GARDEN CLUB** is open to anyone in the community interested in gardening and beautifying the community. Contact Tom at 774-6636 or e-mail tomgroleau2010@gsinet.net. Visit dunbartongardenclub.org.

• **GRANITE STATE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY** (GSAVS) meets first Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Marion Gerrish Community Center in Derry and holds regular workshops, plant and leaf sales and swaps. New members and visitors welcome. Call 887-3154.

• **HAMPSTEAD GARDEN CLUB** meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Hampstead Congregational Church, 61 Main St., Hampstead. Visit hampsteadgarden.org.

• **MERRIMACK GARDEN CLUB** the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m., at St. James United Methodist Church, 646 DW Hwy, Merrimack. See www.merrimackgardenclub.org or contact Chris B. at 880-3739.

• **NASHUA GARDEN CLUB** meets the first Wednesday of each month starting at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 121 Manchester St., Nashua. New members are always welcome and the public is invited to attend for a \$5 fee. Annual membership is \$20. Visit www.nashuagardenclub.org.

• **NEW ENGLAND WILDFLOWER SOCIETY** is at 508-877-7630 and www.newenglandwild.org.

• **NH ORCHID SOCIETY** meets from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on second

Continued on Page 31



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THE PLAYGROUND

Peregrine Webcam is live

It's Manchester's homegrown reality TV show

By Rebecca Sherman
listings@hippopress.com

If your family is weary of the latest celebrity dance moves and squabbling housewives, there's a new option for reality TV viewing. There are no divas on this show, unless you view the female's need to be the only gal within the city of Manchester as prima donna-like behavior. Chris Martin, New Hampshire Audubon Society senior biologist, said he can forgive that behavior, because he knows this female's survival depends upon her superior attitude. We're not talking about Hollywood stars here, but birds of prey called peregrine falcons.

Once again this spring, Spectra Access Inc. is donating wireless service, with support from Brady Sullivan Properties and New Hampshire Audubon, for the live peregrine webcam. Families can access the site at www.spectraaccess.com/falcon2 to peek inside the nesting box of a male and female falcon raising their family atop Brady Sullivan Tower in Manchester. According to Martin, who has worked extensively with raptors, four eggs were laid in the nest in March.

On Monday, April 15, Martin said the first egg hatched. New Hampshire Audubon biologists watched for the next eggs to hatch, but as the week wore on, they began to lose hope. Then on Friday, April 20, they were thrilled to see a second egg had hatched. Martin said they are sure this egg was the last one laid, which means eggs 2 and 3 will not be viable and won't hatch. He said it's likely either the embryos stopped developing for some reason, or there were no embryos, if the eggs were infertile. He said if the chicks continue to do well, there will be quite a size difference between the two, given the different hatching times. He said when observers glimpsed the chicks last week, the second chick was only as big as the head of the first.

This pair has been nesting at Brady Sullivan Tower since 2006. Respecting that these are wild animals, Martin said, scientists prefer not to give names to these birds, but refer to them by the codes on their leg bands. The female, known as "02 over Z," is 7 years old and became the male's second mate in 2006. The male, called "6 over 7," is 12 years old. Martin knows the male well — he put the leg band on this bird in 2000, when it was a chick nesting on Cathedral Ledge in Conway. Scientists know a lot about the female too, because the leg bands allow tracking. Martin said she was banded by a biologist in Massachusetts as a chick living in a nest on top of a building in Worcester in 2005.

Falcons like this pair were removed from the federal Threatened and Endangered Species List in 1999 and moved from Endangered to Threatened on the New Hampshire list in 2008. This recovery resulted from more than 30 years of effort by New Hampshire Audubon conservation biologists and volunteers, who have installed nesting boxes and trays, banded more than 300 chicks and monitored the movements of these birds. The Brady Sullivan Tower nesting site is one of the state's most successful, Martin said. He said, in all the years of monitoring, this is the only site to fledge a record five falcons in 2010 and has produced 33 chicks in 11 years.



The female peregrine falcon on top of the Brady Sullivan Tower. Photo by Chris Martin.

Most falcons in New Hampshire nest on vertical surfaces, such as cliffs, Martin said. The strategic placement of the nesting box on top of the Brady Sullivan Tower means this pair doesn't have to worry as much about typical predators, such as Great Horned Owls, gulls and ravens, or egg-eaters, like cats or rats, Martin said. However, there is still the threat of a rival peregrine falcon, which Martin said "could fly right into the nest box to pick a fight and try to replace one of the pair." Aggression isn't limited to males, Martin said, as females will try to take over territory, too. The other threat to breeding success would be if a disruption of any kind caused the pair to stay off the nest for too long. Male and female falcons take turns incubating the eggs for about 35 days, Martin said.

Falcon cam viewers might get lucky and get a good view of the chicks when the parents feed them, about every two hours. Meals might include a starling or pigeon. Martin said it may be difficult to see detail in the nest on sunny days between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., because of the sun's glare. Martin said viewers shouldn't panic if they see the chicks dropping off the edge of the nesting box, because there's a ledge about 6 inches below. He said New Hampshire Audubon often gets e-mails from viewers concerned about the chicks' welfare, but fans can be assured that the scientists are watching the chicks, too.

After the chicks take their first flight at about 6 weeks old, they are called fledglings. If the brood is successful, the young falcons will begin to leave the nest in early June, Martin said. The falcons will receive leg bands. Martin said offspring from the Brady Sullivan site have been confirmed as breeding falcons in Lawrence, Mass., at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, at the Quincy, Mass., shipyard, at Casco Bay in Portland, Maine, and in Cambridge, Mass.

Falcon festival

On Saturday, May 19, Amoskeag Fishways will be holding a Peregrine Falcon Festival from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., featuring community art projects and raptor presentations throughout the day. Participants can join an interpretive naturalist on a walk across the bridge to the Brady Sullivan Building to try to spot Manchester's nesting pair of falcons. The cost is \$3 per person or \$6 per family and no registration is required. Participants are encouraged to bring binoculars.

Kiddie Pool

Family fun this weekend

Spring has sprung

• Celebrate the new season with the **May Day Celebration of Spring** on Saturday, April 28, noon to 4 p.m. on the High Mowing School campus on Abbot Hill Road, Wilton. Admission free, visit highmowing.org. The day will feature a performance by Flying Gravity Circus, children's games and crafts. Call 654-2391, ext. 135, or e-mail carver@highmowing.org.

• Find some knick-knacks at the Greenland Church **Rummage Sale** April 26-28 at Greenland's Community Congregational Church (24 Post Road, Greenland). The sale opens with early-bird shopping on Thursday, April 26, 6-8 p.m., and continues on Friday, April 27, 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday, April 28, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. It will include gently used clothing for children (and grown-ups), household items, books, toys, puzzles and more. The sale will raise money for church and community programs. Call 436-8336 or e-mail greenlanducc@myfairpoint.net.

Books, puzzles and games

• It's **Puzzle Time** on Friday, April 27, at 2 p.m. in the children's room at the Concord Library, 45 Green St., Concord.

• Don't miss the free **Great Games Day & Book**

Saturday of each month at the Bedford Town Hall, at the intersection of Meeting House Road and Bedford Center Road. Refreshments are available and visitors are welcome. Go to www.nhorchids.org.

• **OPECHEE GARDEN CLUB** mail opecheegardenclub@yahoo.com or go to www.opecheegardenclub.com.

Hobby

• **APPLE CLUB** Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, meets the last Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. This club will provide local user support for Apple products. User meetings feature product demos and discussions of technology as it relates to Apple computing. Visitors are welcome. Visit web.me.com/applepower.

• **GENEALOGY CLUB**, 194 Derry Road, Hudson, second Friday of each month, 1:30 p.m. Trade tips and techniques with others interested in family research and learn about genealogical resources located in the library. Visit www.rodgerslibrary.org or call 886-6030, ext. 4522.

• **MANCHESTER RICHELIEU CLUB** meets the first and third

Give-Away at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, on Friday, April 27, at 2 p.m. Kids can play board games, hard games, puzzles and more. Everyone goes home with a free book. Call 589-4631.

• Learn how to find your way at the **Lost and Found workshop** on Friday, April 27, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, 23 Science Center Road, Holderness. Through fun activities, attendees will work alone and in small groups to develop skills like using a map, compass, and they'll learn landscape observation. Registration is required: Call 968-7194 or e-mail info@nhnature.org. Cost is \$9. Visit nhnature.org.

• Kids ages 3-6 will be scratching their heads and working like Sherlock Holmes while playing the **Life Size Clue** game at the Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester) on Friday, April 27, at 2:30 p.m. Registration is recommended; call 624-6550, ext. 335.

Animals, science and Nature

• Learn about **Hubble's Extraordinary Mission** on Friday, April 27, at 7 p.m., at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, 2 Institute Drive, Concord.

Wednesday of every month at the Chateau Restaurant at 6:30 p.m. If you speak French, enhance your enjoyment of the language by becoming a member of this club. Call Walter Parenteau at 964-6925.

• **MANCHESTER STAMP CLUB** meets on fourth Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Villa Crest Nursing Home, 1276 Hanover St., Manchester. Call Bob Dion at 625-5082.

• **NASHUA CAMERA CLUB** meets Mondays at 7:30 p.m. at the Nashua Public Library. Each month there are three different topics chosen for competitions. Entries can be submitted either digitally or as prints no larger than 16"x20" (with mat) and no smaller than 8x10. Visitors and new members are always welcome. See www.nashuacameraclubnh.org or contact Dave Marden at 305-7036 or dmarden1@myfairpoint.net.

• **NH FLYING TIGERS** radio control flying club meets the last Wednesday of every month at the B-St. Flying Field, 1 B St., or Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 W. Broadway, Derry. Visit newhampshireflyingtigers.org.

Celebrate the 22nd anniversary of the Hubble Space Telescope's deployment and learn about recent discoveries; take a look at the James Webb Space Telescope due to launch in 2014. Cost is \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors and students, \$6 for children. Call 271-7827, ext. 110.

• Children ages 4 through 7 can make like Henry David Thoreau and do some **Nature Journaling on a Saturday Trek** at the Seacoast Science Center, 570 Ocean Blvd., Rye, on Saturday, April 28, from 9 a.m. to noon. They'll trek to the woodlands and salt marsh to collect samples of plants and insects, then write about their findings and sketch in a journal to take home. Cost is \$25. Visit seacoastsciencecenter.org/programs/early_learners or call 436-8043.

• **Explore Birds and their Habitats** at Cottrell-Baldwin Field on Saturday, April 28, from 8 to 10 a.m. at 309 Center Road, Hillsborough. This will be an easy guided walking tour led by Diane DeLuca from the Audubon Society of New Hampshire. Participants will explore a number of habitats while DeLuca describes the birds as they return to the forests. Pre-registration is not required. Call 224-9945, ext. 313, or e-mail info@forest-society.org.

camera club meets at Bishop Guertin High School in Nashua, on the first and third Monday of each month (except July and August). This informal club offers educational programs for all ability levels and the opportunity to meet people with similar interests. Attend your first meeting free. Thereafter, dues are \$30 per year for individuals, \$50 for families; full-time students pay \$15. See www.photographersforum.org.

• **RADIO CLUB** Radio Club meets first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at First Church of Nashua, 1 Concord St., Nashua. Go to www.n1fd.org.

• **SOUTHERN NH FLYING EAGLES** club meets at their flying field in Merrimack throughout the summer. Meetings are open to the public. Visit snhflyingeagles.org.

• **SOUHEGAN VALLEY BRIDGE PLAYERS** 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Wadleigh Memorial Library in Milford; newcomers always welcome.

• **SOUTHERN NH RADIO CONTROL CLUB** on the second

Continued on Page 33

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GARDENING GUY

Starting flowers by seed

Now is a good time

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com



Mass planting of Cleome 'Senorita Rosalita.' Henry Homeyer photo.

Imagine this: you walk into your house and everywhere you turn there are vases full of gorgeous, colorful flowers. Light green zinnias on the kitchen counter, pink and white cosmos on the hall table, blue bachelor buttons in a crystal vase on the dining room table. In fact, imagine every flat surface in the house with a vase filled with flowers. You can do that. Start planting annual flower seeds now and it can be a reality sooner than you think — annuals are fast-growing.

You don't have to spend a fortune at the local garden center buying plants in June. Start annuals now and tend them for 6 to 8 weeks indoors. Plant them in full sun once frost has departed for the summer and ground is warm. Water lightly, whisper a few kind words to them, and keep the weeds down. They will reward you handsomely.

Easy-to-start flowers include cosmos, zinnias, annual bachelor buttons, and marigolds, among others. You'll need some lights to grow them well indoors until summer. I use 4-foot fluorescent shop lights that I hang just 6 inches over their tops. If you grow them without lights they tend to get long and leggy. I suppose you could carry them outside every day and bring them in at night, but the mornings here are still pretty cold. It should be 50 outside before you take them out.

Some annual flowers are best started outdoors. Sweet peas are lovely, usually fragrant flowers that can be started outside as early as regular eating peas — anywhere from mid-April forward. Before planting the seeds, soak them for 24 hours to hasten germination; otherwise they can take up to a month to germinate, leading some people to give up on them. And if you wish to start some indoors, know that they need cool temperatures to germinate, so do not use a heat mat.

The usual method for planting peas is to work some compost into the soil and create a furrow 2 inches deep. Plant the seeds 3 to 4 inches apart and an inch deep. As they grow, you can then fill in the furrow around the plants. Most sweet peas will need a trellis or fence to attach themselves to. One way to do that is to use the branches pruned off your apple trees — just poke them into the soil and let the vines climb up. Chicken wire or bamboo stakes will also work.

Another cold-loving annual is larkspur, which is also called the annual delphinium. It needs cold soil to germinate and hates to be transplanted, so I recommend planting it directly in the soil — which you can do now. Sprinkle seeds on the soil surface and cover with a quarter-inch or less of fine soil. I often use an old sieve or colander to shake sifted soil over seeds needing a thin cover. Once seedlings are up you will need to thin out the plants. If you want masses of plants, thin to 6 to 9 inches, and they will stay relatively short. If you thin to 12

to 18 inches they will grow taller, particularly if you select tall cultivars. And plant seeds in a pattern so when they start to grow you will know they are not weeds!

If you have gotten discouraged with perennial lupines because they get loaded with aphids and the leaves turn brown and ugly by mid-summer, think about growing annual lupines. I never have, but am currently looking for seeds. The species that sounds best is *Lupinus hartwegii*. It comes in an array of colors including blue, pinks, white and gold. But it is not for everybody. It takes two to three weeks to germinate, and the seeds need to be soaked in warm water (in a thermos) for 24 hours or nicked with fingernail clippers. I am looking locally for seeds but have also found the seeds online at www.swallowtailgardens-seeds.com.

Once the soil warms up and frost is past, you can plant nasturtiums and sunflowers directly in the soil. But be advised that sunflowers don't always point their faces where you want them to. They face the sun, which may be away from you. So I suggest putting them next to the barn or house. That way they will always be looking outward toward the light. They now come in an incredible variety of colors and heights and may have several flowers on a single stem.

Most annuals don't need rich soil or lots of nitrogen. In fact, cosmos, cleome and nasturtiums are notorious for growing tall (or long) with lots of leaves but no flowers until late in the summer if given fertilizer. On the other hand, some modern varieties of petunias and verbenas planted in containers really do need regular fertilizing to keep them pumping out the blossoms.

One last bit of advice: Despite what you were told in kindergarten, pinching is good. Pinching almost any annual (or using scissors to snip off the top) when it is 3 or 4 inches tall will encourage it to be bushier, producing multiple stems. Cut just above a bud or leaf.

I admit that I still spend a fair bit on annuals at garden centers each spring. I can't start every annual I want indoors — my time and space are limited, and I devote more to my tomatoes and other veggies than to flowers.

Henry Homeyer is a gardening consultant, designer and author. His website is www.Gardening-Guy.com. Reach him by e-mail at henry.homeyer@comcast.net.

Tuesday of the month at Wagner Field on Old Landfill Road in Hudson. Visit snhrcc.org or e-mail Wally Adasczik at president@snhrcc.org.

• **UNITED DIVERS OF NH** the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the YMCA in Manchester (30 Mechanic St.). Visitors are welcome. Visit udnh.org.

CRAFTS
Fairs/Exhibits

• **IN THE GRAIN SCULPTURAL AND FUNCTIONAL WOOD CREATIONS** at the Mill Brook Gallery & Sculpture Garden, 236 Hopkinton Road, Concord, themillbrookgallery.com, 226-2046, April 1-Aug. 19. Artists reception Sun., April 29, 3-6 p.m. Sophisticated, highly crafted works by leading craftsmen and sculptors will be on display.

• **CRAFTWORKERS' GUILD OPENS SPRING CRAFT SHOP** May 3-May 12 at the historic Kendall House, 5 Meetinghouse Road in Bedford. Seasonal shop will be open every day, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Shop will be filled with arts and crafts of 60+ artisans and craftspeople.

• **CRAFTWORKERS' GUILD SPRING FLING** night is Thurs., May 10, 4-8 p.m. at the Kendall House, 5 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford. E-mail craftworkersguild@gmail.com or visit thecraftworkersguild.org.

• **MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND CRAFT FESTIVAL** Sat., May 12, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sun., May 13, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Hampton Falls Town Common.

• **ARTISTS AND CRAFTERS WANTED** for the New Castle Juried Arts and Crafts fair on Sat., June 23, on the grounds of the New Castle Congregational Church, Route 1B, New Castle. E-mail rimplefinn@gmail.com.

Other

• **KOROWAI WEAVING CLASS** hosted by Gay Gawron at Sage Gallery, 70 Lowell St., Manchester, every Wednesday, May 2-June 20, 6-8 p.m. Cost for eight-week class is \$90. Call 626-SAGE to register.

• **WET-FELTED SOAP CLASS** on Sat., May 12, 1-3 p.m. The magic of wet-felting happens using soap and water and rubbing the wool to felt the fibers together. Bars also make soap last longer. Open to adults and kids 10 and older. League of NH Craftsmen Nashua Gallery at 98 Main Street. Class fee is \$20 due upon registration with a \$10 materials fee payable to the instructor. Call 595-8233 or e-mail nashuarg@nhcrafts.org.

• **RESIN INLAY PENANT WORKSHOP** on Sat., May 19, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., open to adults and teens 14 and older with any level of experience. Class to be held at League of NH Craftsmen Nashua Gallery, 98 Main St. Class fee is \$40 due upon registration, with \$35 materials fee payable to instructor. Call 595-8233 or email nashuarg@nhcrafts.org.

• **BEAD AND QUILT TECHNIQUE CLASS** at Mt. Kearsage Indian Museum, 18 Highlawn Road, Warner. Taught by Native American artists, eight classes will be offered for adults of all skill levels Sundays, April through October, 10 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$30. Class descriptions and instruc-

In the spotlight



Yard sale

It's spring cleaning season, and that means it's time for some great yard sale deals. Donate what you don't need, pick up what you do.

- The **Greenland**

Church Rummage Sale will take place April 26 through April 28 at Greenland's Community Congregational Church (24 Post Road, Greenland). The sale opens with early-bird shopping on Thursday, April 26, 6-8 p.m., and continues on Friday, April 27, from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday, April 28, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Expect to find gently used clothing, household items, books, toys, puzzles and more. Clothing is priced per bag, and other items are priced individually. Proceeds support the church and community programs. Call 436-8336 or e-mail greenlanducc@myfairpoint.net.

• There's another **Yard Sale** on Saturday, May 5, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Christ the King Parish, St. Peter's Hall, 135 N. State St., Concord.

• Get spring cleaning and bring donated items for a charity **yard sale** on Saturday, May 19, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 180 Lowell Road, Hudson. The yard sale will benefit the Anne-Marie House and its program for children and families experiencing homelessness. Drop-off dates are Saturdays, April 14 through May 12, from 9 a.m. to noon. Donations may also be dropped off during the week leading up to the sale, Monday, May 14, through Thursday, May 17, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visit annemariehouse.org or call 883-7338, ext. 5.

In the spotlight



Free fun at the Y

Take them to the Y-M-C-A! Healthy Kids Day is Sunday, April 28, at the YMCA Allard Center, 116 Goffstown Back Road. From noon to 4 p.m., visitors can try various activities and demonstrations — look for Zumba,

rumba and more — and there will be musical entertainment by Mountain View Middle School, plus dance performances to watch. Healthy lunch and snacks will be provided. Admission is free. Call 497-4663 or visit yogm.org.

tor biographies will be posted on indianmuseum.org. Call 456-2600 to reserve a spot.

• **CRAFTERNOON** at Concord Public Library, 45 Green St., Concord, on Thurs., April 26, Thurs., May 24, and Thurs., June 28, 3:30-4:30 p.m. in the Blanchard Room. For children grades 1-8. Make something out of recycled materials, make patriotic crafts for Memorial Day, and make flapping owls and bats. Call 230-2682.

• **SOAP MAKING WORKSHOP** at the Massabesic Audubon Center (16 Audubon Way, Auburn, 668-2045) on Sat., April 28, 1-3 p.m. Cost is \$25 plus a \$5 material cost. Leader Barbara Benton of Little Cabin Crafts will provide demonstration of making hand-crafted soap using all-natural ingredients. Take home a finished bar.

• **MAKING WIRE BEADS** on Sat., April 28, 1-4 p.m. at Nashua League of NH Craftsmen, 98 Main St., Nashua, 595-8233. Make wire beads for one-of-a-kind necklace with just a few tools and your own hands. No experience required.

• **TEEN CRAFT: MINI PINA-**

TAS will be created at the Wadleigh Memorial Library (49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408) on Fri., May 4, 3-4:30 p.m. in the AV room. For grades 6-12.

• **INTRODUCTION TO ZENTANGLE CLASS** on Sat., May 5, 10 a.m. to noon at the League of NH Craftsmen Nashua Gallery at 98 Main Street. Zentangle is essentially a structured, contained doodle created with the intention of producing a finished piece of art. No experience required. Class fee is \$20 due upon registration with a \$10 materials fee payable to the instructor. Call 595-8233 or e-mail nashuarg@nhcrafts.org.

• **INTERMEDIATE ZENTANGLE WORKSHOP** on Sat., May 5, 1-3 p.m. Class will be held at the League of NH Craftsmen Nashua Gallery at 98 Main Street. Class fee is \$20, due upon registration with a \$10 materials fee payable to the instructor. Call 595-8233 or e-mail nashuarg@nhcrafts.org. Learn complex patterns and applications of the technique. Previous experience helpful.

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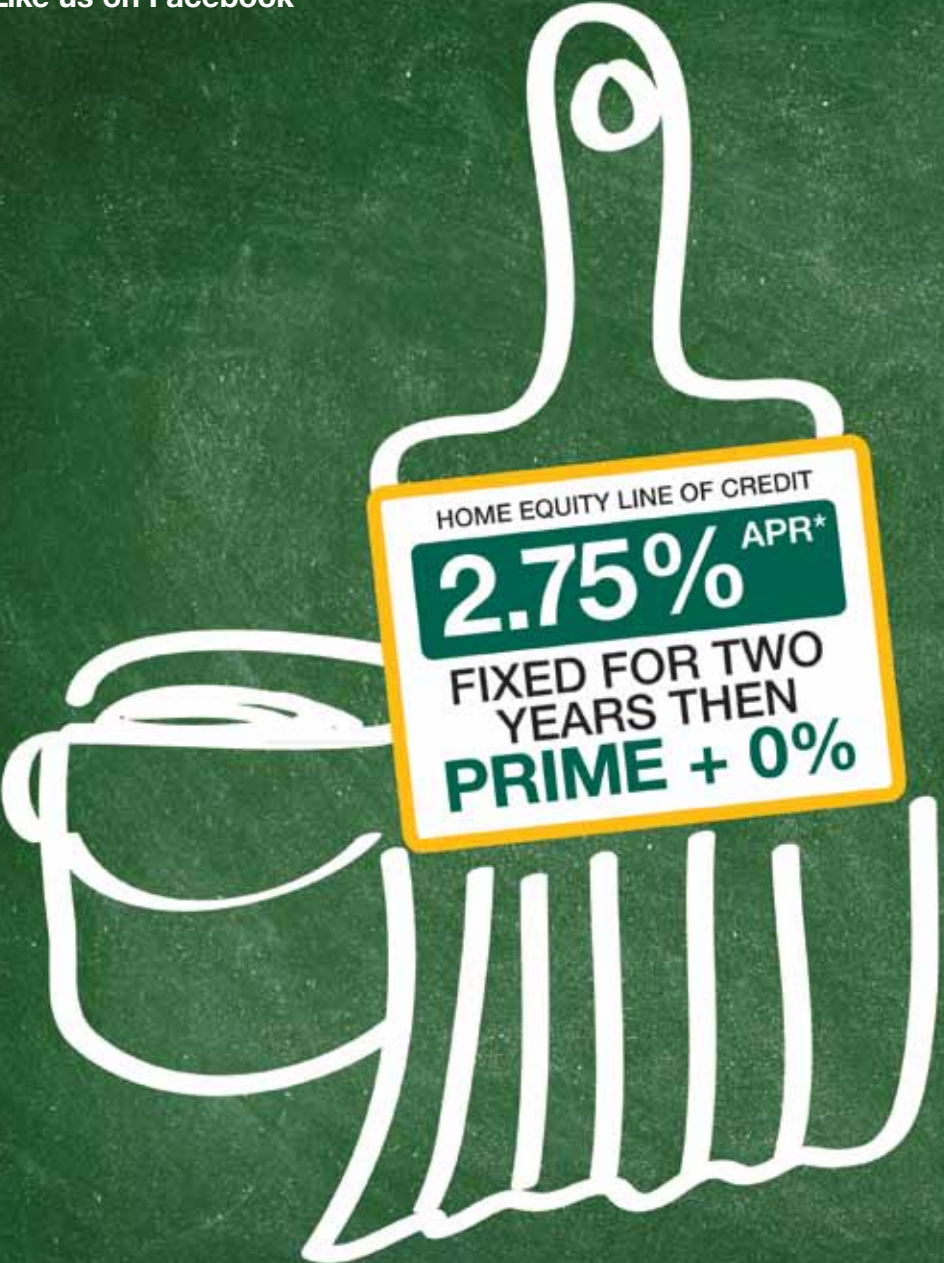
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Treasure hunt

An antiques expert helps you search for buried treasure

Donna,

I have a couple of items that I've been saving for a rainy day, and that day has come. I have always been a dumpster diver and I think it has paid off on a few occasions.

The first item I have is a spinning wheel that is dated 1854. I came upon it one Saturday at my local dump more than 10 years ago, still in the original box, unassembled.

My second item, which I found in the same location, is an oil-on-canvas painting that is signed by the artist F. H. McKay. The little history I was able to get on her was that she painted Maine coastal scenes. Her paintings are dated in the late 1800s.

The third and final item I have is a 1964 Winnie the Pooh porcelain musical jewelry box. Again I came into possession of this item from the same place.

I have been reading your articles for some time and have always wanted to see if you could help me find out what these items are appraised at.

Stan in New Hampshire

Dear Stan,

I love to hear stories when people salvage things. It doesn't matter where or how, just as long as it gets saved and re-used again or enjoyed again.

The spinning wheel is going to be a tough

sell these days. It's not the antiquity value; it's that the demand is low for them. There were so many made and used that there are still a lot around and not too many people collecting them. At one time, everybody wanted them for a living room decoration. Those days are gone for now. So I would say the value is in the \$100 range if you can find a collector for it.

The second item, the painting, really should be looked at. Condition, subject and age are important. I know you did research, but to determine a price you really have to narrow it down a lot more for a value. Call the shop and I could refer you to someone who could help.

Last, the Winnie the Pooh music box: You will have to determine whether it's American-made or from another country. This will help determine the value. Next, the maker is important, and finally the condition. A lot of the items from Disney in the 1960s do have a high value today, so it's worth the time.

Stan, I do hope this was helpful and if you need more please feel free to call.

Donna Welch has spent more than 20 years in the antiques and collectibles field and owns From Out Of The Woods Antique Center in Goffstown (www.fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com). She is an antiques appraiser, an instructor and a licensed auctioneer. To find out about your antique or collectible, send a clear photo of the object and information about it to Donna Welch, From Out Of The Woods Antique Center, 465 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H., 03045. Or e-mail her at footwdw@aol.com. Or drop by the shop (call first, 624-8668).

Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610) on Tues., May 22, at 4 p.m. Upcycle your old T-shirts into trendy scarves you can accessorize with any time of year. For ages 11 to 17. Register at www.tinyurl.com/nplteen.

• **CHAINS IN A DAY JEWELRY WORKSHOP** on Sat., May 26, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at League of NH Craftsmen Nashua Gallery, 98 Main St. Open to adults and teens 14 and older. Using round wire, wrap, bend, knit, hammer, spiral to make chain samples to be worn. Class fee is \$70 upon registration with a \$20 materials fee payable to instructor. Call 595-8233 or email nashuarg@nhcrafts.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

Bake/yard sales/fundraisers/auctions

• **GREENLAND CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE** April 26-28 at Community Congregational Church (24 Post Road, Greenland). Opens with early-bird shopping Thurs., April 26, 6-8 p.m., continues Fri., April 27, 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sat., April 28, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Gently used clothing, household items, books, toys, puzzles and more. Clothing priced per bag, other items priced individually. Raises money for church and community programs. Call 436-8336 or e-mail greenlanducc@myfairpoint.net.

• **YARD SALE** on Sat., May 5, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Christ the King Parish, St. Peter's Hall, 135 N. State St., Concord.

• **CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTER YARD SALE** on Sat., May 19, 8

In the spotlight



Field trip

Ever seen a moose or bear...up close in the wild? On Saturday, May 12, from 6 to 10:30 p.m., the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness) offers visi-

tors (ages 10 and up) a chance to see these animals in their natural habitat. Attendees will meet at the Science Center and travel together by van to the North Country to see where mother black bears graze on plants and berries while their cubs play nearby. When dusk approaches, attendees will visit a moose "hot spot" for some moose sightings. Registration is required; e-mail info@nhnature.org or call 968-7194. Visit nhnature.org for more information. Cost is \$22.

a.m. to noon at 21 College Drive, Concord. Tables cost \$20, \$10 each additional. Proceeds benefit classroom materials. Call 271-8910 or e-mail caramel@ccsnh.edu.

• **KITTY ANGELS FUNDRAISER** will be Sat.-Sun., May 5-6, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Treasures Antiques, Collectables & More, 106 Ponemah Road, Amherst. Vendors, flea market, yard sale, coffee, crafters, psychic, face painter and more at this event raising money for Kitty Angels, Inc., a no-kill cat shelter made up of unpaid volunteers. "Cash for Gold" representative will also be on site. Bring in unwanted gold and get cash on the spot. Call 672-2535 or visit TreasuresNH.com.

• **DONATIONS OF UNWANTED ITEMS NEEDED FOR CHARITY YARD SALE** on Sat., May 19, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 180 Lowell Road, Hudson. The yard sale will benefit the Anne-Marie House and its program for children and families experiencing homelessness. Drop-off dates are Saturdays, April 14-May 12, 9 a.m. to noon. Donations may also be dropped off during the week leading up to the sale, Mon., May 14-Thurs., May 17 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visit annemariehouse.org or call 883-7338, ext. 5.

Continued on Page 38

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1. Midtown Cafe TACO: Jerk Chicken Taco <i>Black bean and corn salsa, seasoned rice and marinated jerk chicken</i> CHARITY: Serenity Place	2. Red Arrow Diner TACO: BBQ Buffalo Pulled Pork Taco <i>Buffalo pulled pork with lettuce, diced tomatoes and shredded jack cheddar cheese</i> CHARITY: Compassionate Friends	3. Greg's Place TACO: Shredded Pork Taco <i>Shredded pork in a taco shell</i> CHARITY: ASPCA	4. Milly's Tavern TACO: Fisher Cat Taco <i>Salmon taco braised in Fisher Cat Ale with cucumber wasabi dressing. Served with cabbage, carrots, red onion and tomatoes</i> CHARITY: New Horizons	5. Gauchos TACO: Grilled Beef Taco <i>Grilled beef in a taco shell</i> CHARITY: Ambar's Family Trust	6. Wild Ro TACO: Wild Ro <i>Fried buffalo chicken</i> CHARITY: St. Ba
12. 36 deLux TACO: Pulled Pork & Dessert Tacos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pulled pork with coleslaw and homemade pickles Chocolate chip cookie tacos dusted in cocoa & powdered sugar CHARITY: Boys & Girls Club	13. Consuelos Taqueria TACO: Azteca Taco <i>A meat lovers' delight of beef, pork and chorizo with a spicy sauce</i> CHARITY: Manchester AIDS Project	14. J.W. Hill's TACO: Stuffed Pork Taquitos <i>Roasted & pulled pork, cranberry, apple, onion stuffing, sweet/spicy pork gravy drizzle rolled in a corn tortilla and baked.</i> CHARITY: Kristen's Gift	15. Vino Aromas TACO: Vino Aromas Taco <i>Vegetarian Klinker Brick zinfandel wine-infused taco with a hint of smoke with green, red, and yellow peppers and fresh tomatoes with honey chipotle sour cream</i> CHARITY: Susan G. Komen for the Cure	16. Margarita's TACO: Taco Del Mar <i>Haddock Taco</i> CHARITY: American Cancer Society	17. Breez TACO: Breezew <i>Fish Taco and Beef Taco</i> CHARITY: Greater Projects
23. Hilton Garden Inn TACO: Chorizo and Potato Taco <i>Ground chorizo, Yukon Gold Potatos shredded lettuce, Queso Farnco smoked tomato salsa, avocado sour cream</i> CHARITY: CHaD	24. Cotton TACO: Tacos de Carnitas <i>Slow-cooked seasoned pork, chipotle ranchero, sauce, salsa fresca and cotija cheese</i> CHARITY: Kid's Cafe	25. Planet Marshmallow TACO: S'mores Taco <i>Soft cinnamon & sugar taco shell with vanilla ice cream, dark chocolate sauce, crushed graham crackers, marshmallow fluff, strawberry salsa topped with a toasted marshmallow</i> CHARITY: Pacer's National Bullying Prevention Center	26. Lala's Hungarian TACO: Transylvanian Dessert Taco <i>Dessert taco with a crepe-type shell filled with blueberry or cherry compote</i> CHARITY: Wounded Warrior Project	27. Hooked TACO: Hooked on Taco <i>Soft shell taco filled with haddock and garnished with shredded lettuce, pico de gallo and spicy tartar sauce</i> CHARITY: Elliot Regional Cancer Center	28. Drynk TACO: The Dryn <i>Soft shell taco. Red Bu with chipotle honey s</i> CHARITY: Susan G.

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7. Fratello's Italian Cuisine TACO: Amante Di Carne Taco <i>Ground Angus beef sweet italian sausage and pepperoni served on a soft taco shell with a spicy tomato sauce and melted smoked mozzarella cheese</i> CHARITY: CASA	8. Jillian's TACO: Upside Down Dessert Taco CHARITY: Manchester Animal Shelter	9. Baja's California Cantina TACO: Mango Tango Taco CHARITY: Red Cross NH	10. The Farm TACO: The Farm Taco <i>Slow-smoked pulled pork taco</i> CHARITY: Birth to Three Family Center	11. Firefly TACO: Firefly Taco <i>Bacon cheeseburger taco</i> CHARITY: Granite United Way
18. Strange Brew TACO: Rancho Loco Taco <i>Strange Brew's spicy take on the Tex-Mex</i> CHARITY: Manchester PAL	19. Dos Amigos TACO: Dos Amigos Taco <i>Citrus and herb marinated steak taco topped with fresh Chimicurri sauce</i> CHARITY: City Year NH	20. El Rincon Zacatecano TACO: Postor Taco <i>Pork with pineapple</i> CHARITY: St. Augustine Church	21. Murphy's Taproom TACO: The Hangover Taco <i>The perfect taco to finish off the previous evening. We'd tell you the ingredients but you're so hungover, you wouldn't remember them anyway</i> CHARITY: Officer Daniel Doherty Fund	22. 900 Degrees TACO: 900° Taco <i>Chili lime shredded pork soft taco with salsa verde</i> CHARITY: Breathe NH
29. Murphy's Diner TACO: The Hangover Taco <i>The perfect taco to finish off the previous evening. We'd tell you the ingredients but you're so hungover, you wouldn't remember them anyway</i> CHARITY: Officer Daniel Doherty Fund	30. Ignite TACO: Hooked on Taco <i>Soft shell taco filled with haddock and garnished with shredded lettuce, pico de gallo and spicy tartar sauce</i> CHARITY: Elliot Regional Cancer Center	30. Republic TACO: Falafel Taco CHARITY: Friends of the Manchester Animal Shelter	Win \$1000 Grocery give-away at the Hannaford Water Tent on Lowell St.	





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INSIDE/OUTSIDE

Take X-treme flight

Aerospacefest on Saturday, May 5

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

Helicopters, rockets, balloons, oh my!

It'll be a sky-high flying adventure at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center (2 Institute Drive, Concord, 271-STAR, starhop.com) on Saturday, May 5, for Aerospacefest 2012: X-treme flight.

"It's a big, fun family festival. We've got something for everyone, whether you're 3 or 99 years old," said Tiffany Nardino, the education coordinator at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center. "Younger kids and middle aged kids will probably be drawn to the planetarium shows, but older kids and adults will enjoy the weather balloon launches and enjoy hearing from our guest, astronaut and Space Shuttle Commander Rick Searfoss," she said.

The fest starts on Friday, May 4, with the observatory and exhibits open for a "Super-Stellar Friday Kick-off" from 6:30 to 10 p.m.

Doors open on Saturday at 10 a.m., and the first show, *Mars Interrupted*, will be featured on the planetarium stage at 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

The annual event is the McAuliffe-Shepard's biggest of the year.

"It's really important to us because it's an opportunity to take all these things we offer on a daily basis and expand on it even more," she said. "It's also great to be able to invite all of these cool groups and organizations from around New England to help us put this event on," Nardino said.

There are new partners this year, she said. Visitors will learn from experts on everything space and aviation, including some 25 to 30 different groups with astronomy and aviation interests and information to share.

Kids can take on the sky through helicopter rides, rocket launches (at noon and at 1:30 p.m. with Phil Chouinard), or they can build their own at the FlisKits Rocket Building at 12:30 p.m.

Chouinard is expert at all things rocketry, Nardino said. He'll show off his Wild E. Coyote rocket, which if you're familiar with Loony Toons, you won't want to miss.

Attendees can get sky high with weather balloon launches (at 10:45 a.m. and 1:15 p.m.), or they can see the beings that take to the sky without technology, with visits from sky-flying animals from the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center at 1 p.m.

Take on Curious George activities with folks from the Margret and H.A. Rey Cen-



Kids and adults can opt for a helicopter ride at this year's Aerospacefest. Courtesy Photo.

ter, and get mad with the Mad Science with their "Up, Up & Away" show at noon and 3:30 p.m., and with their hands-on exploration station.

There will be various planetarium shows throughout the day, including the ever-popular "Attack of the Space Pirates," a show about space explorers flying out to save the world from evil space pirates.

Between events, kids may also want to try the RC (remote control) planes with the New Hampshire Flying Misfits, New Hampshire's remote control airplane club, which is new at this year's Aerospacefest.

All these activities lead up to a presentation by an astronaut who's experienced the real thing: Astronaut and space shuttle commander Rick Searfoss will present "The Human Side of Human Space Flight" on Saturday at 2 p.m., sharing his experiences as a pilot astronaut on three space shuttle missions. He'll also tell of his current work as a test pilot for one of the leading commercial space companies, XCOR Aerospace.

Many kids dream of being astronauts and traveling to the moon when they're young, but he'll explain what it's actually like to train, launch and command a space shuttle mission, land a space shuttle, and test-fly experimental rocket planes.

Following the speech, Searfoss will announce the winners of the 2012 Alex Higgins Space Camp Scholarship, the three kids who will get to have a simulated space experience at Space Camp in Huntsville, Ala. The Astronomy Bowl VI winner will also be announced and honored at the event.

Admission on Friday is \$10 for adults, \$8 for children, \$9 for student/seniors. Admission Saturday is \$15 for adults, \$11 for children, \$13 for seniors. General admission includes everything except for helicopter rides.

Expos/festivals/fairs

- **MAY DAY CELEBRATION OF SPRING** Sat., April 28, noon to 4 p.m. on High Mowing School campus on Abbot Hill Road, Wilton. Admission free, visit highmowing.org. Performance by Flying Gravity Circus, children's games and crafts. Call 654-2391 ext. 135 or e-mail carver@highmowing.org.
- **NEW HAMPSHIRE RENAISSANCE FAIR** Sat., May 12, & Sun., May 13, and Sat., May 19, & Sun., May 20, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day at 9 Thorne Road, Kings-

ton. Tickets \$12 (\$8 for kids 5-12, free for children 4 and younger).

- **HUDSON ANNUAL COMMUNITY EXPO** is Wed., May 16, 4-7 p.m. at Alvirne High School, 200 Derry Road, Route 102, Hudson. Event will showcase Alvirne's activity groups and allow local businesses to introduce their products and services to the public. Call 889-4731. Free. Visit hudsonchamber.com.
- **DAYS OF PEACE AND HARMONY** May 16-20 at Canterbury Shaker Village, 288 Shaker

Road, Canterbury. The Drepung Gomang Monks will visit the village in the days leading to the village's opening day on Sun., May 20. Witness the creation of a sacred sand mandala, participate in traditional Buddhist stone painting, and see the monks' costumed Snow Lion Dance. Joint fundraising event in support of Canterbury Shaker Village and the Drepung Gomang Monastery. Suggested donation. Register at eventbrite.com or e-mail education@shakers.org. Call 783-9511.

Why does this car burn through clutches so fast?



Dear Tom and Ray:

I purchased a Kia Forte Koup in March of 2010. After receiving the car, it blew three clutches in an eight-month period. I have been driving a stick my entire life, and I know how to use a clutch. The problem with this car is that the clutch is not failing from shifting gears. When I get on the highway, black smoke comes billowing out of the front of the car, and it burns the clutch. Kia is clueless about the problem, and has refused to help me. Any guidance would be appreciated. Thanks. — Mark

TOM: Clutches are one of those gray areas where the manufacturer always argues that it's the customer's fault, and the customer always says, "I know how to drive a stick shift, so it's not me!"

RAY: Kind of a "clutch said, foot said" situation.

TOM: We know that this car has a very touchy clutch, Mark. Lots of people have complained about it. Even car reviewers who tested the car when it first came out noted that the clutch was

extremely finicky and caused them to stall the car often. And these were professional reviewers who drive lots of cars.

RAY: You probably should have read those reviews before buying this car, Mark, and gotten the automatic!

TOM: Well, that's clutch dust under the bridge now. But here's why it matters: What do drivers do when a clutch is touchy and difficult? They give the car more gas and let out the clutch more slowly. And that does what? It burns out the clutch!

RAY: Once the clutch starts to slip and burn up, it continues a death spiral on its own, which explains the black clutch smoke you're generating when you accelerate hard. That's the clutch slipping, heating up and burning. That's also your sign to prepare for your fourth clutch, Mark.

TOM: So it's possible that both parties are at fault here: Kia is at fault for introducing a car with a particularly difficult clutch, and you're at fault for riding the clutch to prevent it from stalling.

RAY: Or, it's possible that your particular Forte has a defect of some kind and you're completely innocent. That's almost impossible for us to adjudicate from the pages of the newspaper.

TOM: So I think you need to look beyond this dealer now, and try to move up the chain of command at Kia. Ask the dealer to put you in touch with the Kia zone representative for your area. That's the person who handles special cases on behalf of the manufacturer and has the

authority to do a little more for you if he feels it's necessary or appropriate.

RAY: You can plead your case to him, and see what he says. Going through three clutches in eight months is highly unusual for an experienced stick-shift driver.

TOM: If I were the manufacturer, I'd replace the entire clutch system next time — the clutch, the clutch cover, the throw-out bearing and the flywheel — just in case something was damaged during manufacturing and is causing your clutches to adjust themselves into oblivion.

RAY: And then, after that, if you came back in a month for another new clutch, I'd close the dealership and not tell you where I was relocating to. Good luck, Mark. Make your case calmly and politely, and hope that Kia is feeling customer-service-oriented that day.

Dear Tom and Ray:

When I pick up my teenage son from school, he is so ravenous that I worry he'll eat one of his younger siblings when I'm not looking. So we're forced to stop and get him a jumbo quesadilla, which is the cheapest of the five things he currently will eat. I'm spending half of my paycheck — yes, I'm unemployed — on quesadillas that I could make at home, but of course they'd be cold and hard by the time they reached him. Hence, my question: Is it possible to wrap the quesadillas in foil and cook them on the engine on the way to his school? If so, how many could I cook this way? His school is 50 minutes from home, but it takes

three buses and three hours to get home, so his fellow passengers would be in danger of being eaten if he took the bus. Please help. — Inner City Mom

RAY: You absolutely can do this. In fact, there have been several books written about engine cooking, the most famous of which is "Manifold Destiny," by Chris Maynard and Bill Scheller.

TOM: The book includes instructions, recipes and tips. Since the car's exhaust manifold typically heats up to 800 degrees or so, there's more than enough heat in the engine compartment to cook anything you want.

RAY: The trick is finding the right spot in the engine and figuring out the timing. You need to find a spot where you can nestle a tinfoil-wrapped package of food so it won't become dislodged during the drive, and where it won't ooze melted sharp cheddar all over your fuse box.

TOM: I've always thought that those wire-mesh vegetable-grilling baskets they sell for use on barbecues would be great for this.

RAY: And then you need to experiment to get the timing right. But I think quesadillas could be a perfect food for engine cooking.

TOM: In fact, I think you should cook a whole bunch of 'em and sell them to the other parents picking up kids. It could be not only a solution to your son's hunger problem, but it could be your next job, too! Good luck.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack by visiting the Car Talk website at www.cartalk.com. (c) 2012 by Tom and Ray Magliozzi and Doug Berman.

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TECHIE

Megapixels are back

Apparently more is better again

By John Andrews
jandrews@hippopress.com



For a time, it looked like some sense had been talked into the camera manufacturers.

The megapixel wars, which had camera makers advertising ever-increasing photo resolutions, were at least in a state of cease fire, if not outright truce or peace. The fanciest cameras topped out around 16 megapixels, and more attention was being paid to the lenses that collected the light and the internal sensors that recorded it.

Like in the megahertz wars before, consumers had become convinced that a higher number on a single spec made a whole product better. PC makers stopped out of necessity; they just couldn't wring more than about 4GHz out of a processor, so they turned to multi-core and 64-bit solutions. Camera sensors, meanwhile, were getting so small that individual pixels couldn't record light properly, leading to the counterintuitive result that a picture with more megapixels actually looked worse than one with fewer.

Now manufacturing and software interpolation is catching back up with the marketing hype of years past. The 8-megapixel sensor in the iPhone 4S is so good that it has some folks wondering if they even need a separate camera. The rest of the world isn't so eager to cede yet another entire industry to Apple, so they're selling you more and more megapixels.

• **Nikon D800/D800E, 36.3 megapixels:** Just released, this DSLR's sensor records 50 percent more pixels than Nikon's next model down, or the closest competition from arch-rival Canon. That difference of 12 megapixels is the same resolution as many perfectly good point-and-shoot cameras.

Nikon certainly thinks its camera is bet-

ter than the iPhone, and for any shooting condition that's not perfect, it's right. DSLR lenses can accommodate low light much better and capture several shots per second. Since the sensor is larger than even some previous Nikon DSLR sensors, the quality of each pixel is improved as well. At full resolution, you could crop to a small area of the photo and retain very good quality or blow up the whole frame to a very large print.

• **Sigma SD1, 46 megapixels:** Is this where it starts getting ridiculous? Sigma is best known for making surprisingly cheap, surprisingly good lenses for other brands' cameras. With its own crazy-high-resolution camera body, you *have* to buy its lenses. It's a tricky proposition, since most pro photographers are religiously devoted to their brand of choice, but leapfrogging everyone in resolution is a good way to encourage converts.

Sigma's sensors also work a bit differently, with separate blue, green, and red layers. In theory, this helps more accurately reproduce colors. According to Sigma, anyway.

• **Nokia PureView 808, 41 megapixels:** Yes, Nokia means it's a phone. And a weird phone it is. The bit with the camera is nearly three-quarters of an inch thick, twice as thick as many current smartphones. The default mode combines seven pixels into one for really nice 5-megapixel photos, though you can set it to capture pics up to 38 megapixels.

It also runs Nokia's Symbian operating system, which is perfectly capable of running downloaded apps and everything else a smartphone can do, but carriers, consumers, and app developers never took much of a shine to it. Oh, and it's not available in North America. But the same sensor and PureView pixel-combining technology is supposed to show up in Windows Phone handsets later this year. Free with a two-year contract, I'm sure.

Words are worth 1/1000 of a picture at twitter.com/CitizenjaQ.



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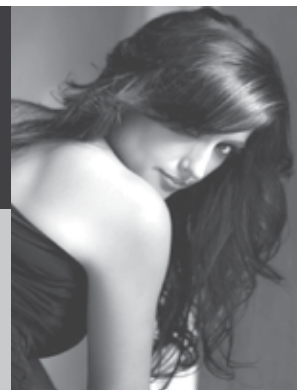
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Weekly Dish

Notes from the local food scene

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

• **A taste of Spain:** Republic Cafe, 1069 Elm St., Manchester, 666-3723, republiccafe.com, will serve Spanish-inspired specials through Friday, April 27, as part of its monthly Mediterranean Passport promotion. The restaurant will feature such dishes as salt cod bacala fritters with romesco sauce, potato-crust cod with pistachio-saffron vinaigrette, goat cheese-stuffed piquillo peppers, chicken empanadas, Paella Valencia, small plates of tuna stuffed deviled eggs, salt wrinkled baby potatoes with mojo sauce and orange-scented flan.

• **Students in the kitchen:** Students in the Advanced Food and Beverage class at the University of New Hampshire in Durham will host gourmet dinners at Stillings Hall, 20 Ballard St., Durham, on Friday, April 27, and Saturday, April 28, from 6 to 9 p.m., with guest chef Ben Hasty of When Pig's Fly and Joe Yonan, food and travel editor of the Washington Post (Yonan will be available for a book signing from 5 to 6 p.m.). Tickets cost \$60 at wsbe.unh.edu/gourmetdinner.

• **Celebrate the end of the winter market season:** The final indoor farmers market of the season in Exeter will be held at Exeter High School, 315 Epping Road, Exeter, on Saturday, April 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. More than 40 farmers and food producers will take part in the market and sell such items as garlic, parsnips, spring greens, meats, milk, cheese, eggs, maple syrup, honey, baked goods and prepared meals. Jeff Warner will perform, and Jennifer Purrenhage of Get Well Grounded and Erin Allgood of Allgood Eats will conduct cooking demonstrations and tastings, and share information about the benefits of locally raised eggs. Visit seacoastatlocal.org.

• **Dine and jam:** Sacred Heart Church, 49 Maple St., Wilton, will hold a community potluck supper on Saturday, April 28, at 6 p.m. A family-friendly open mike will start at 7 p.m. Attendees are asked to bring a dish to share or a non-perishable donation for the Open Cupboard Food Pantry. There will be a \$3 cover charge for the open mike (no charge for performers). Call 654-5806.

• **Gluten-free dining in Salem:** Tuscan Kitchen, 67 Main St., Salem, 952-4875, tuscan-kitchen.com, will recognize National Celiac Disease Awareness Month by offering new gluten-free lunch and dinner menus, starting May 1. Menu additions are slated to include Tuscan Steak Alla Fiorentina, wood-grilled salmon and gluten-free gnocchi pasta. In-house-made gluten-free bread will also be served with each meal.

• **It's almost the fifth of May:** Cactus Jack's, 782 S. Willow St., Manchester, 627-8600, go2cjs.com, will celebrate Cinco de Mayo from Tuesday, May 1, through Saturday, May 5, by accepting nonperishable items (specifically canned vegetables, soups, boxed macaroni and cheese, no-bean chili,

Taco Tour to serve thousands

Vote for People's Choice at Hippo De Mayo

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

April showers bring May — tacos? Yes, it's that time of year again.

The Hippo is gearing up for its second annual Hippo de Mayo Taco Tour, which will be held Thursday, May 3, from 5 to 9 p.m. Last year more than 7,000 attended and devoured an estimated 20,000 tacos in downtown Manchester. Hippo publisher Jody Reese anticipates an attendance of 10,000 at this year's tour, which could double the amount of tacos sold.

Reese shared some tips for getting the most out of the taco tour experience: bring cash, come early and map out a strategy.

"You will not get to all 30 tacos," he said. A map of restaurants participating in the tour can be found in this, and the May 3, edition of the Hippo.

"The idea behind this event — it's a bit like St. Patrick's Day. We organize it, give advice, and it's up to restaurants to implement that stuff ... our goal this year is to get people in and out as fast as we can," Reese said, adding that many eateries may opt to serve their tacos outside this year.

The Queen City restaurants that signed on for the 2012 Taco Tour will sell their taco creations for \$2 each for a shot at being voted "People's Choice" taco, an honor that will earn the restaurant \$1,000 for the charity of its choice. The People's Choice award will be voted on by event-goers via text message during the event. Voting codes will be released the day of the event, and each person will be allowed 10 votes, allowing him to cast more than one vote for a

favorite taco. The Red Arrow Diner took home the crown last year.

"I love tacos and the versatility of tacos," Reese said. "I love that [Hippo de Mayo] allows us to be outside enjoying a nice May night." In its simplicity, Reese added, the taco could be one of the best foods ever.

"Think about it — a taco is a piece of bread folded, with stuff in it ... a simple beef taco with avocado and a little lime can be the greatest thing you've ever eaten," he said. "A chocolate chip taco can also be the greatest thing you've ever eaten."

Chef Matt Provencher at 36 deLux (36 Lowell St., Manchester) plans to whip up both savory and sweet tacos for this year's Taco Tour: a pork taco and a chocolate chip taco.

Planet Marshmallow Dessert Café will also be serving a sweet taco variety, said owner Heather Cox. Cox said she will likely serve a cinnamon-sugar coated soft-shell taco filled with vanilla ice cream and graham cracker crumbles, topped with strawberry salsa and a toasted vanilla marshmallow.

New to this year's event, restaurants will vie to receive \$1,000 for the charity of their choice by being named "Judge's Favorite." Hippo food writer Angel Roy (who will live tweet the event at @Hungry-HippoNH between bites), Hippo food columnists Stefanie Phillips and Sarah Shemkus, and Seven Days food writer Corin Hirsch will serve as Taco Tour judges.

"We wanted ... [a winner] to be chosen by some foodies to encourage a lot of restaurants to make 'super foodie' tacos. ... We want them to be as creative as possible," Reese said. The name of the



TACO! Photo by Doug Kerr.

winning restaurant will be blasted out to all text voters and will also be posted on Facebook and Twitter the night of the event.

By following @hippotaco on Twitter during the tour, event-goers will be able to get information as to which participating eateries have the shortest wait times, in real time.

Superheroes — locals dressed in costume as The Avengers — will serve as taco tour guides, trolling the streets of downtown to answer questions. Water stations will be set up downtown.

A Dos Equis-inspired Most Interesting Man One Liner Contest will be held at Murphy's Taproom (494 Elm St., Manchester) the

night of the event at 9:30 p.m. Those who contribute their one-liners will receive a Hippo de Mayo T-shirt, while supplies last. Reese shared a line of his own: "He's the only man to beat New Hampshire Gov. John Lynch and have the governor thank him for it."

"That's the type of thing it should be," he said.

The Taco Tour, Reese said, serves as a great way to showcase Manchester, as the city has become a dining destination over the years not only for the Granite State but for New England.

"I think this is still the world's biggest taco tour — prove me wrong, somebody — but I think it is," he said.

Hippo de Mayo Taco Tour

When: Thursday, May 3, from 5 to 9 p.m.

Where: Downtown Manchester

More info: hippodemayo.com

Participating restaurants include The Farm, 36 deLux, Jillian's, Wild Rover Pub, Milly's Tavern, Fratello's, Firefly American Bar & Bistro, Cotton, Ignite, Greg's Place, Murphy's Taproom, Hilton Garden Inn, J.W. Hill's, Strange Brew Tavern, Breezeway Pub, Republic Cafe, Gaucho's, Margarita's, Midtown Cafe, Baja, Hooked, Murphy's Diner, Planet Marshmallow, Lala's Hungarian Pastry, Vino Aromas, Consuelo's Taqueria and Red Arrow Diner.

Redefining hospital food

Fresh local produce at Concord Hospital

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

When Tom Serafin began adding local produce to the Concord Hospital cafeteria a few years ago, the reaction from staff and patients was positive.

"When you can serve local food it just seems better," Serafin said. "It's not food that's been sitting in some sort of truck or warehouse for who knows how long."

This year Serafin, food service director at the hospital, decided to try making locally grown organic offerings a fixture on the cafeteria's menu starting in July (and likely running through the fall) by forming a "hospital supported agriculture" partnership

with Larry Pletcher of Vegetable Ranch in Warner.

Pletcher will provide the hospital facility with red and fingerling potatoes, scallions, summer squash and cherry tomatoes, all grown down the street on five acres at St. Paul's School.

"It will literally go from there to the hospital," Pletcher said. "It's a short trip." Pletcher also offers a community-supported agriculture program to the staff and faculty at St. Paul's School and another in Manchester.

"I'm making it more convenient for people to get, in my case, organic, healthy and fresh stuff," he said.

The partnership allows for Serafin and the hospital culinary staff to plan their menus



Larry Pletcher, owner of Vegetable Ranch in Warner, is growing produce and potatoes for the Concord Hospital cafeteria. Angel Roy photo.

Continued on Page 45

FOOD

around what will be available from Pletcher. Most of the produce will be among the salad bar options in the hospital's cafeteria, but some may also make its way into the facility's hot meal offerings; food will still be brought in from other sources. Serafin said the Concord Hospital cafeteria sees an average of 3,000 diners daily.

"I can't understate that people clearly, at least folks that eat in our cafeteria, sincerely seem to appreciate buying local, supporting local businesses, local farmers," Serafin said, adding that depending on the success of the program, he may consider revisiting the terms of the agreement so that it provides the hospital with more of what it is already scheduled to receive, or more choices.

"I certainly will entertain similar agreements with local farmers," he said. "One thing I've found with local farmers, which is nice, is that they don't overly compete with each other in terms of what they produce."

Pletcher said his agreement with the

hospital is the first of its kind he has experienced as a farmer, though he has run much smaller-scale programs with schools in Hopkinton and the Kearsarge School District. Schools, he noted, don't often have the ability to take advantage of locally grown foods because of the short seasons in the state and budget constraints.

Serafin said he has been able to make the partnership with Vegetable Ranch work within his budget because customers pay for their meals with cash at the a la carte at the cafeteria.

"We certainly have competitive prices, but there are times when we may have to charge a little bit more," he said. "When we've done that, customers certainly have responded, and I think people understand the value of local and know me a little bit more; when I say a little bit I'm talking dimes and nickels."

"As word got out that we're doing this, I was shocked by the response and how good people felt about it," Serafin said.

Butternut makes more dairy

Milford farm goat-milk certified, has new pasteurizer

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

Tim and Noreen O'Connell purchased Butternut Farm in Milford on April 17, 1975 — their 10-year wedding anniversary — and celebrated the milestone by eating pizza and drinking Pepsi on the floor of their new home.

Thirty-seven years later, the retired couple still dedicates their days to caring for their farm. Six months ago, they received their dairy certification to allow them to safely produce and sell raw goat milk and cheese.

With their respective science backgrounds — Noreen was a dental hygienist, Tim a high school biology teacher — the O'Connells both have an understanding of bacteria count in raw milk products and pursued the certification because it allows them to have their goats' milk tested once monthly to ensure its safety.

Noreen milks one goat daily using a breast pump designed for goats so that the milk is not exposed to bacteria that may be in their barn. The milk is pumped directly into containers to immediately start the cooling process (milk must be cooled to 42 degrees within two hours of being exposed to the air). Noreen is able to collect six quarts daily from her one milking goat; she will soon start milking three to better meet production demands.

An addition on the home is dedicated to milk cooling and cheese pasteurization and production (the couple also uses goat milk to make soap). The O'Connells refer to their pasteurizer as their new car, as it cost them just as much.

"But without the pasteurizer you can't make soft cheese," Noreen said, noting that hard cheese need not be pasteurized. Noreen is enrolled in an artisan cheese course in Vermont, not to learn the process but to see how professionals are making a living at it.

The O'Connells opted to produce goat milk and cheese rather than cow milk-based



Dora, a goat at Butternut Farm in Milford.
Angel Roy photo.

products because of its nutrients and high lactic acid and the fact that it is easier to digest. Goats are also easier to maintain and small enough for Noreen to handle on her own. Tim calls the goats his wife's pride and joy.

"I can take care of their feet, groom them and move them place to place," Noreen said.

On her most stressful days, Noreen finds solace in spending time with the goats.

"Tim calls it my 'goat fix,'" she said. "Milking them brings my blood pressure down. It's my quiet time."

"They're very loving," she continued. "They'll put their head in your lap so you can scratch their ears."

Also waiting for a scratch behind their ears as the O'Connells walks through their farmland are Ben and Sally, their two 5-year-old golden retriever-basset hound pups, who wake the couple daily at 4:30 a.m.

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FOOD

After the dogs have been walked and the goats milked and tended to, Noreen and Tim turn their attention to the flowers (Butternut Farm offers a cut-your-own flower program, which has been used both as a floral source and as a photo opportunity by bridal parties, and also sells potted plants) and vegetables now growing in hoop houses and greenhouses on their property.

"It will get so hot in here. It can be so beastly by noon," Noreen said, entering a hoop house on April 17, when temperatures hovered around the 75-degree mark. "In March and April it's like Florida out here, but when it's 90 degrees out it's 120 degrees in here."

One greenhouse is filled with flower and vegetable seedlings that were planted in containers around mid-March and wait to be transplanted to their respective patches in the field. A 17-foot by 96-foot hoop house is already lush with freshly grown kale, Swiss chard, lettuce and beets. The couple is gearing up for summer veggie production.

"I've grown zucchini half of my life," Tim said, adding he is ready this season to take on the "challenge" of growing seedless watermelon. Seedless watermelon must be planted at least a half mile away from traditional watermelon to ensure it lives up to its name. "It shouldn't be any issue here; I don't think our neighbors are growing them," Tim said.

The O'Connells have turned to the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension as a resource to make their practice a success. They have worked with the organization's vegetable and animal specialists and plant pathologist. "It's a wealth of information we tap into whenever we can," Noreen said.

Also sold in the garage bay turned retail shop at Butternut Farm is the Souhegan Valley Farmers Cookbook, a collection of recipes put together by Noreen for people who might not know how to use the fresh vegetables sold at local farms.

"We want people to understand cooking isn't rocket science," Noreen said, adding that most of the ingredients found in the book's recipes are items that most people should already have in their kitchen cupboards.

"Just play with [the recipe], and if it goes wrong, feed it to the dogs and try again," she said.

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Butternut Farms milk, cheese, soap and produce are available at the farm, at Holland Farm in Hollis and at the Milford, Manchester and Bedford farmers markets.

Cupcakes made with love

Merrimack mom bakes gluten-free goodies

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

Debbie Atamanchuk started making gluten-free sweets in the kitchen of her Merrimack home as Bite Me Kupcakez last May. She made her first foray into gluten-free baking shortly after she and her daughter Rebecca, 18, were diagnosed with gluten allergies. Soon requests from others wanting to avoid gluten began pouring in — birthday cakes, cupcakes for school parties — until someone suggested Atamanchuk open a gluten-free business of her own. Her gluten-free cupcakes, whoopie pies, cookies and cake pops are now sold at Lull Farm in Hollis and Milford and A Market in Manchester. Her Black Forest Cake is served for dessert at the Sky Meadow Country Club in Nashua.

"I can do anything you ask," Atamanchuk said. "The favorite dessert you can't eat? I can convert and try to make it gluten-free." The only baked dish component Atamanchuk is having a tough time mastering is pie crust. "We're really particular with what we do," she said. "We keep trying until it's absolutely perfect."

Atamanchuk uses rice flour, potato starch, alkali, tapioca, guar gum, soy flour and xanthan gum in lieu of gluten-riddled ingredients. Her flour costs average out to \$8 a pound, she said.

"I always call the company if it doesn't say [gluten-free] on the package," Atamanchuk said. "I'm known to be standing in the middle of the grocery store looking up the



Gluten-free Black Forest Cake made by Bite Me Kupcakez in Merrimack. Courtesy photo.

number of the company that made the product." Frosting is easy to make gluten-free, she said, later adding that she recently mastered a gluten-free carrot cake topping with a cream cheese blend.

Atamanchuk and a chef friend from Los Angeles are working on a line of scones, both savory and sweet, with varieties slated to include bacon cheddar, raspberry white chocolate chip and maple walnut.

Atamanchuk calls gluten-free baking her "back nine" career, as she has always worked in retail management and does not have any formal culinary training.

"I can tell you I dream about [baking] at

FOOD

night ... I wake up at 4 or 5 in the morning to change ingredients to see if I can make something better," she said. "When you really like something that you're doing, it's not work, it's more fun."

Atamanchuk developed her recipes through a lot of trial and error.

"You can't be afraid to throw it out if it's not good. You have to try it," she said, adding that Rebecca's friends, teens without gluten allergies, are more than glad to participate in taste tests and she particularly values their opinions, as those with gluten allergies will "tell you anything is good ... if it's not the cardboard cookies at the grocery store."

Many adults, both with and without gluten allergies or sensitivities, took such an interest in Atamanchuk's gingerbread whoopie pies during the Made in NH Expo that she sold out every day of the weekend-long event, despite her efforts to increase inventory.

"Everyone has a different favorite. I keep telling people when I open a shop I will name cupcakes after them," Atamanchuk said noting that of her cupcakes her mother prefers maple walnut, her son, chocolate peanut butter and her husband, lemon. She said she has been seeking a commercial location to open the Bite Me Kupcakez bakery.

"Watch for us to grow bigger," she said.

The one common ingredient listed in the description of each of Atamanchuk's baked gluten-free creations is love.

"That's how it all started," she said. "I started doing this for my daughter because I love her and wanted her to still be able to have the things she likes."

Bite Me Kupcakez

674-4459, bitemekupcakez.com

Weekly Dish continued from Page 42

beef stew and packaged meals that can be cooked with little skill or resources) for The Salvation Army's Kids Café. Guests will receive a \$1 dining certificate for every two items donated (up to \$10 a day).

- **Grow some greens for dinner:** "Growing Edibles Vertically," a free lecture and slide presentation by horticulturalist Margaret Hagen of the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension, will be held in the Winchell Room of the Manchester City Library, 405 Pine St., Manchester, on Tuesday, May 1, at 7 p.m. The presentation will focus on such topics as growing edibles in small spaces and containers. Call 624-6550, ext. 319, to register.

- **Just horsin' around:** The Anheuser-Busch brewery in Merrimack (221 DW Highway) will hold a Budweiser Clydesdale Camera Day on Saturday, May 5, from 1 to 3 p.m. Tours will also run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and, for the 21-and-older crowd, will conclude with a sample of Bud Light Lime-A-Rita. Visit budweiser-tours.com.

- **Sure signs of spring:** NOFA-NH (Northeast Organic Farming Association) will host "Edible Forest Gardens: Growing a Food Paradise," a presentation by Jonathan Bates from the Food, Forest, Farm Permaculture Nursery, at Unitarian Universalist Church, 274 Pleasant St., Concord, on Saturday, May 26, from 2

to 5 p.m. The presentation costs \$20 at meetup.com/GreaterSeacoastPermaculture/. NOFA-NH will hold its third annual Spring Herb & Garden Day at the McLane Audubon Center, 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, on Saturday, June 2, with workshops (herbal medicine making, organic gardening, herbal wine & cheese-making, foraging, urban survival, advanced formulation, natural fertility and integrative medicine), from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and an Organic Seed Swap Soiree, from 6 to 8 p.m. Visit nofanherbday.weebly.com to register and view a full event schedule.

- **Gate City grub showcased:** Tickets are on sale for the Taste of Downtown Nashua, which will be held on Wednesday, June 6, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. More than 20 restaurants are slated to participate. Tickets cost \$25 through April; \$30 from Tuesday, May 1, through Tuesday, June 5, and \$35 the day of the event. Visit downtownnashua.org or call 883-5700.

- **Cocktails of the past:** Zampa Restaurant, 8 Exeter Road, Epping, 679-8772, zampa.com, has added some classic cocktails to its offerings including an Old-Fashioned, Gin Fizz, Whiskey Sour, Gimlet and Sidecar. All are served for \$5 during the restaurant's Happy Hour, from 5 to 6 p.m. on Monday.

Follow Hippo food on Twitter @HungryHippoNH.

Food Listings

Winter markets

- **MILFORD** at Milford Town Hall Auditorium, 1 Union Square in Milford, on some Saturdays through May from 9 a.m. to noon: May 5 and May 9. See www.milfordnhfarmersmarket.com.
- **SEACOAST EAT LOCAL** alternates between Wentworth Greenhouses and Rollinsford and Exeter high schools. Visit seacoateatlocal.org/winterfarmers-markets for a full schedule.

Food maps/tours

- **FOOD MAPS** The Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Hampshire (NOFA-NH) offers

an online Farm & Food Map that lists member Organic Farms and Organic Land Care professionals, which can be searched by location as well as by product type. The map will soon list local restaurants that support the farm-to-restaurant connection, and other businesses supporting organic agriculture. Visit nofanh.org/food-map. To list your farm and become a member, call 224-5022.

- **ICE CREAM TRAIL** Granite State Dairy Promotion's "New Hampshire Ice Cream Trail" is a map highlighting NH shops and stands that use NH dairy products in their ice cream. For copies of the map call 271-3696, e-mail gsdpc@comcast.net, or go to www.nhdairyinfo.org.

- **NH ONLINE FARMERS MARKET** www.nhfarms.com offers links to NH farms selling fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy, maple and honey products, flowers, baked goods and more.

- **NH FOOD TOURS** Visitnh.gov, the state's tourism website, features several maps for food-related travel in the state including a Chocolate and Martini Tour, a brewery tour, Wine and Cheese Trails and maple syrup-related information.

Festivals/cook-offs/expos/parties/book events

- **NORMAN SMITH**, a leading snowy owl expert, will give a presentation at The Portsmouth

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FOOD

Perishables

Skimping on the cheese

I'm not much of a casserole person. Casseroles tend to be full of unhealthy ingredients like heavy cream or mayonnaise and, while many of them are quite tasty, my health-nut self tries hard to avoid their richness. Yet, casseroles have their place in U.S. society. They are a staple at block parties and family picnics as well as being the go-to dish in times of crisis. There's nothing kinder than dropping off a casserole for an overwhelmed mother or grieving family: casseroles show care. So, I'm faced with a dilemma: how can I draw out what's great about casseroles without taking on the extra weight?

My response to this casserole conundrum is ... enchiladas! Now, I know what you're thinking: *How are cheesy enchiladas better for you than casseroles?* My answer for you lies in this week's perishable ingredient, reduced-fat cheese. A third trimmer than the regular stuff, reduced-fat cheese is made from either 2% milk or part-skim and seriously tastes like the real thing. When used as a topping (rather than the main event) like in my enchilada recipe, this is a great way to cut fat and calories. Resist the urge to double your serving size, however, as a lot of trim cheese leads to the same place as a moderate amount of not-so-trim cheese.

I have a love affair with cheese, to be sure, so when I discovered that I could buy a Mexican blend of shredded cheese



with less fat, I was in heaven. I thought to myself, *I like low-fat milk, so why not low-fat cheese?* I gave it a shot and was not disappointed. Going without cheese is not an option for me, especially in Mexican food, so I am grateful for this substitution.

Enchiladas are the new casserole in my house, and the way I make them, they're way healthier! They're a cinch to prepare, contain a decent amount of vegetables and are simple to hand off to people with easy instructions: Bake at 350 for 20-25 minutes. Check out the recipe below and rethink your go-to dish for family functions.

—Allison Willson Dudas

Each week in Perishables, Allison Willson Dudas digs through the fridge for stuff that needs using while it's fresh and concocts a home recipe to maximize its potential. Questions? Comments? E-mail her at food@hippypress.com.

Chicken Enchiladas

(serves 4-6)

3 breasts of chicken, boiled and shredded
adobo seasoning to taste
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 green bell pepper, chopped
1 sweet onion, chopped
1 large tomato, chopped
1 small can green chilies
1 small can sliced black olives (optional)
1 cup 2% Mexican blend fancy shredded cheese
8 whole-wheat tortillas
1 can enchilada sauce
Reduced fat sour cream (optional)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In large pan, sauté onions in olive oil until brown and then add peppers. After about 2 minutes, mix in chicken (season with adobo), chilies and 1/3 of the enchilada sauce. Pour 1/3 of enchilada sauce into large baking dish and begin making individual enchiladas. Dip one side of the tortillas into the sauce in the baking and fill dry side with chicken mixture. Roll up and place enchiladas side-by-side in dish until full. My dish holds about eight tortillas well. Once dish is full, pour remaining enchilada sauce over top and sprinkle with cheese. Top with olive slices and tomato pieces and bake uncovered for 20 to 25 minutes. Serve with light sour cream.

Brewery, 56 Market St., Portsmouth, on Thurs., April 26, from 6 to 8 p.m. Tickets to the presentation cost \$30 and include passed hors d'oeuvres and beer samples. A portion of all proceeds will benefit The Center for Wildlife.

• **KITCHEN TOURS** will be held in New Castle on Sat., May 5, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Complimentary trolley service will be offered at this year's event. Tickets cost \$25 in advance and \$27 the day of the event. Visit themusichall.org.

• **TASTE OF THE LAKES REGION** will be held at the Conference Center at Lake Opechee Inn & Spa in Lakeport, on Sun., May

6, from 3 to 5:30 p.m. Participating restaurants include Crazy Gringo, The Common Man, T-Bones, Cactus Jack's, Fratello's, Giuseppe's and Hart's Turkey Farm. Tickets cost \$25 at Hart's Turkey Farm in Meredith, Patrick's in Gilford or Hector's and Caldwell Banker in Laconia. Proceeds will benefit Altrusa International of Laconia. Visit altrusalaconia.com.

• **SPRING INTO HEALTHY LIVING FAIR** will be held at The Concord Cooperative Market, 24 S. Main St., Concord, 225-6840, concordfoodcoop.coop, on Sat., May 12, from 10 a.m. to noon. The event will feature sam-

ples of local, natural foods as well as live music, barnyard animals and activities for children. The event is free and guests are asked to bring a canned good that will be donated to the NH Food Bank.

• **NH RESTAURANT WEEK** will run from Fri., May 18, through Fri., May 25. Each participating restaurant will offer a three-course prix fixe menu for lunch and/or dinner. Visit RestaurantWeekNH.com for list of participating restaurants and their menus.

• **CHOCOLATE LOVERS FANTASY** to benefit The CareGivers will be held at the Radisson Hotel, 700 Elm St., Manchester, on Sun.,

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FOOD

From the Pantry Spring chicken cordon bleu

There is a period of time in my life that I refer to as the "bleu years," as in chicken cordon bleu. My mom's cooking abilities were once limited to Hamburger Helper and chicken cordon bleu, so we alternated between the two meals regularly. Thankfully, my mom and I have both expanded our cooking repertoires, but I still enjoy the familiar flavors I grew up eating.

Culinary evidence points to the popularity of recipes for roulades and bracioline made of veal/chicken, ham and cheese in countries around the world for centuries. While recipes and recipe names varied by country and region, they all boasted similar elements. Recipes in Italy, for example featured chicken with prosciutto and Parmesan. The chicken cordon bleu that we're familiar with in America didn't evolve until the 1960s. We substituted deli ham for prosciutto and Swiss or mozzarella for Parmesan. It's truly a classic recipe that's evolved to fit the tastes and lifestyles of different countries.

While the recipe has multiple origins, it draws from two European traditions most distinctly. The first is the Ukrainian dish Chicken Kiev, made of flattened chicken breast wrapped around seasoned butter, then breaded and fried. It first appeared in fine dining restaurants in the U.S. in the 1960s. There is also a dish from Austria, Schnitzel Cordon Bleu, consisting of flattened pieces of veal, wrapped around thin slices of ham and Gruyere cheese before being breaded and fried. The combination of the two recipes resulted in the chicken cordon bleu we're familiar with today.

Instead of making the creamy, heavy dish of my childhood, I experimented with ingredients I had in the pantry to recreate the flavors in a lighter dish. Prepare a box of au gratin potatoes according to the package instructions. Pour the prepared potatoes into a baking dish. Meanwhile, cut four chicken breasts into strips, seasoning with salt and pepper. Sauté in olive oil until cooked through. Layer the chicken over the potatoes in the pan, topping with thin slices of deli ham. In a separate bowl, mix together Italian bread crumbs and melted butter. Spread evenly over the baking



Make traditionally heavy meals light for spring, like this deconstructed chicken cordon bleu. Lauren Mifsud photo.

dish. Cook according to the directions on the package of au gratin potatoes.

This dish is a great spin on a classic recipe. You can still enjoy the chicken, ham and cheese that you're familiar with but in a quick, light dish perfect for spring. Layering the different elements of the traditional cordon bleu is an easy way to recreate the flavors in a faster way. Adding a twist with the au gratin potatoes instead of slices of cheese, however, changes the texture of the dish while maintaining the original flavors. I can't get enough of the cheesy, gooey potatoes, and topped with the chicken and ham it's a complete meal. Not only is this meal quick, but it's pantry-friendly. Keep a box of the au gratin potatoes on hand and you can whip up this dish anytime.

—Lauren Mifsud

Each week in *From the Pantry*, Lauren Mifsud manages to make a satisfying meal or snack even if the fridge is empty, by digging through the pantry for forgotten staples and easy, always-ready flavors. How is your pantry stocked? E-mail Lauren Mifsud with questions or comments at food@hippopress.com.

Spring Chicken Cordon Bleu Ingredients

1 box au gratin potatoes
4 boneless, skinless chicken breast, sliced
6 slices deli ham
½ cup Italian bread crumbs
1 tablespoon butter, melted
olive oil
salt and pepper to taste

Directions

Prepare the au gratin potatoes according to the package, and spread in a baking dish. Meanwhile, cut the chicken breasts into slices, seasoning with salt and pepper. Sauté chicken in olive oil until cooked through. Layer chicken on top of potatoes followed by slices of ham. In a separate bowl, combine breadcrumbs and melted butter. Spread evenly over ham. Cook according to directions on au gratin potato package.

May 20, from noon to 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$17 in advance at caregiversnh.org or \$19 at the door.

• A TASTE OF MILFORD will be held at the Oval on Fri., June 1, from 6 to 9 p.m. Participating restaurants include Amigos Mexican Cantina, Butternut Farm, Café

on the Oval, Chapangas Griddle & Grill, Carole's Cake Creations, Clark's Tavern, Foodee's Gourmet Pizza, Giorgios Ristorante, The Golden Palace, Jade Dragon, Memphis BBQ & Blues, the Manchester Monarchs, the Milford Fish Market, the Mile Away, Papa Joe's

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FOOD

Just Desserts Salt, for salted caramels

There is, perhaps, no ingredient more fundamental than salt.

Virtually every recipe, savory or sweet, calls for salt. It is abundant and cheap — one canister of supermarket salt costs less than \$1, and can last for well over a year.

But if salt is basic, it is definitely not boring.

Salt has been vital to civilization ever since such a thing has existed. In ancient China, a treatise on pharmacology listed more than 40 kinds of salt and their uses. Starting in the 13th century, Africa's Mali empire was built on the trade of salt for gold. American colonists set up saltworks as one of their first orders of business upon settling in the New World.

Today, the most common salt is undoubtedly the iodized, fine-grained white stuff that occupies shakers on every kitchen table. But for those interested in experimenting, there is a dizzying variety of salts available: white, black, red or pink; smoked or spiced; crunchy or flaky.

When it comes to using salt in desserts, the goal is to bring out the flavors of the other ingredients, said Don Tydeman, one of the owners of the Salt Cellar, a salt shop in Portsmouth.

To go with chocolate, he recommends a salt with a little crunch, something like a Hawaiian black lava salt. For caramel, a smoked salt adds a nice twist, he said.



Espresso- or vanilla-infused salt can elevate an ice cream sandwich, he said, and a serrano salt can add a subtle heat to desserts.

In (and on) my salted caramels I used fleur de sel, a hand-harvested French sea salt that has a more mellow, delicate flavor than standard-issue table salt. It is, I admit, a bit of a culinary indulgence; if you are not feeling up to shelling out \$15 for a tub of salt (or if you don't have a convenient Williams-Sonoma gift card), try substituting a less expensive supermarket sea salt.

When making the caramel, be sure to use a large, heavy pan so there is plenty of room for the mixture to bubble when you add the cream. And if you don't already own one, invest in an \$8 candy thermometer — it makes it much easier to track the progress of the liquid caramel. Enjoy. — Sarah Shemkus

Each week in Just Desserts, Sarah Shemkus fiddles around with sweet ingredients to create a delectable homemade dessert and shares the results. To suggest your own ideas or ask more about hers, e-mail her at food@hippopress.com.

Fleur de Sel Caramels

This recipe comes from culinary website theKitchn.com.

- 1 cup heavy cream
- 5 tablespoons unsalted butter, cut into pieces
- 2 teaspoons fleur de sel, or other sea salt, plus more for sprinkling (optional)
- 1½ cups sugar
- ¼ cup light corn syrup
- ¼ cup water

Line the bottom and sides of the pan with parchment paper and lightly oil or butter the paper.

Bring the cream, butter and sea salt to a boil in a small saucepan; remove from heat and set aside. Boil the sugar, corn syrup, and water in a heavy saucepan, stirring until sugar is dissolved. Bring to a boil, without stirring but gently swirling pan. Cook without stirring until the mixture reaches 248°F.

Carefully stir in the cream mixture — the mixture will bubble vigorously. Simmer, stirring frequently, about 15 minutes. The temperature should not go higher than 250°F.

To get the caramel consistency you want, test by dropping a spoonful of caramel into a bowl of cold water. It will form a ball, which you can test with your fingers. Stop cooking when the ball is the consistency that you want.

Pour the mixture into the baking pan and cool 2 hours. Cut into 1-inch pieces, sprinkle with salt (optional), then wrap each piece in a 4-inch square of wax paper, folding ends or twisting to close like taffy.

Marlena Phillips will perform. Tickets cost \$25 at milfordimprovementteam.org or by calling 249-0676 and \$30 at the door.

• **GRAND OPENING** of The Cozy Tea Cart Café will be held at 104 Route 13 in Brookline on Sat., June 9, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. An authentic Japanese Tea Ceremony will be held at noon. Visit thecozyteacart.com.

• **STEVEN RAICHLIN**, author of *The Barbecue Bible*, will be at Gibson's Bookstore, 27 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com, on Fri., June 29, at 7 p.m.

• **FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL** will be held at Rockingham Park in Salem on Sat., June 30, from

noon to 4 p.m. Tickets cost \$30 (\$40 for VIP) at foodtruckfestivalsofne.com. Admission includes one food portion from each of the 20 trucks at the event.

Chef events/special meals

• **WINE DINNER** will be held at 36 deLux, 36 Lowell St., Manchester, 644-1180, 36delux.com, on Wed., May 9. The four-course dinner is feature to include Lobster and Ricotta Crostini, Crispy Duck and Pork, Roast Leg of Lamb and deLux Strawberry Short Cake. The dishes will be paired with Vinum Cellars White Elephant, Vinum Cellars Pinot Noir, Vinum Cellars Red Dirt Red

and Vinum Cellars Rose and will kick off with "bite-sized surprises" and a glass of Vinum Cellars Bubbles. The dinner costs \$65 and reservations are required.

• **ITALIAN DINNER** prepared by chef Dante de Magistris, of Restaurant dante in Cambridge, Mass., will be served at Bedford Village Inn, 2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com, on Sat., May 12. The dinner costs \$69 and reservations are required.

• **MADE IN NH ANNIVERSARY DINNER** has been scheduled for June 7 at the Grappone Center in Concord. Tickets for the dinner cost \$55 at nhmade.com.

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DRINK

South Africa is wine country

Ocean breeze is good for grapes

By Stefanie Phillips
food@hippopress.com

South Africa may not seem like a large player when it comes to wine, but this area is starting to gain attention in the wine industry and has consistently been producing wine for many, many years. Winemaking in South Africa dates back to the 1600s, centralized around Cape Town. There are now several major wine-making areas in South Africa, including Constantia, Stellenbosch and Paarl. South Africa consistently ranks in the top 10 of the world's wine-producing countries, contributing more than 264 million gallons of wine every year. That's a lot of wine in comparison to its total acreage.

According to Wines of South Africa (WOSA), an organization that represents South African wine producers, the origin control system is not new. It has been in place for many years and determines that a wine named for a production area is made entirely from grapes from that winemaking region.

South Africa's location between the Indian and Atlantic oceans, combined with its possession of some of the oldest viticulture soils in the world, makes it an ideal environment for growing grapes. These maritime conditions allow winemakers to grow several different varietals, including sauvignon blanc, chardonnay, pinot gris, merlot, cabernet sauvignon, malbec and nebbiolo. The trend has shifted from mostly white wines to the planting of more red wine grapes there within the last four years. Winemakers have developed pinotage, a hybrid grape, by crossing pinot noir and hermitage. This varietal has been gaining popularity within the last few years.

I perused my local New Hampshire Liquor and Wine Outlet for South African wines. The location I chose had a limited selection, but I see from their website they do offer several South African wines.

My first selection was Two Oceans sauvignon blanc. The label caught my eye because it features a beautiful shot of the southern tip of Africa. I always say, "Don't judge a wine by its label," but this one intrigued me, and I like sauvignon blanc.

Two Oceans is much into eco-sustainable practices and preserving the natural beauty and resources around its Western Cape winery, hence the name that pays homage to the location. The dynamic of the Atlantic and Indian oceans, cooling sea breezes and plentiful soils gives the grapes rich flavors.

If you like sauvignon blanc, you will like Two Oceans. It is pleasant on the nose without being overpowering like some sauvignon blancs are. It has a tropical fruit nose and is nice and crisp on the palate. This is probably one of the best sauvignon blancs I have tried in a while, as some are just too pungent for my liking.

Two Oceans recommends pairing this

wine with grilled seafood, pasta or poultry dishes. I have to agree it would be great with chicken piccata or shrimp scampi. This is a great summer sipper because it is so light and fresh.

Two Oceans also makes several other white, red, rosé and sparkling wines. It produces three kinds of chardonnay, including Colombard and Semillion. I'd really like to try these to compare, along with Two Oceans' pinotage, shiraz rosé and fruity wines. Currently, only the shiraz and sauvignon blanc are available in New Hampshire Liquor and Wine Outlets. The sauvignon blanc is very affordable (I paid less than \$10 as it was on sale) and puts more expensive wines of its kind to shame.

The second wine I tried had an equally intriguing label, but for different reasons: Goats Do Roam. I chose the red, which is a 2010 blend of 72 percent syrah, 13 percent cinsaut, 7 percent mourvedre, 4 percent caignan and three percent Grenache. The grapes were collected from different vineyards and fermented in stainless steel tanks. They were malolactic-fermented for 2 to 3 months and aged in older barrels for about 7 months.

Because I had never tried some of the grapes in this wine before, I was excited to try it. I really like syrah, and it was very evident in this wine. This wine is slightly smoky on the nose, with hints of fruit. It is medium-bodied, slightly drier than I usually drink, but still pleasant. The finish is fairly smooth with hints of tannins.

This wine, like Two Oceans, is very affordable, and you can't miss the label. I like the producer's light-hearted take on the branding of this line. The website includes testimonials called "Have you herd?" and one wine is named Bored Doe. I didn't see that one on the shelf, but some New Hampshire locations do carry it. It is also worth mentioning that this wine has 14 percent alcohol content. That is slightly higher than most red wines, something to consider when you are enjoying it.

I don't usually like overly sweet wines, but the third South African wine I tried was hands-down my favorite: Jam Jar sweet shiraz. I have tried other sweet red wines and have had mixed reactions, but this one is sweet with good balance between fruitiness and acidity. It really is reminiscent of fruit jam, and I highly recommend it if you like sweet wines. Jam Jar also makes a moscato, which I am guessing is also pretty good; I would definitely like to try that one too. While I couldn't find a lot of information on how this wine is made, I know the New Hampshire Liquor and Wine Outlets carry both wines for less than \$15. The label is simple and clean, just like the wine itself.

Trying these three wines barely scratched the surface of what South Africa has to offer. I am looking forward to trying several others from this great wine region.

DRINK

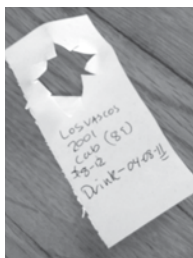
Red, white and green A lot of wine, a little cash

This week we decided to raid the wine cellar, or at least go down in it and see what we could try that might be interesting. Wine cellaring can be a lot of fun, especially if you leave it alone.

We pulled two very different wines. The first was a much overdue **2001 Los Vascos Cabernet Sauvignon** from Colchagua, Chile, that we bought back in 2006 for about \$10. Like most wine on the less expensive side, this one was designed to be consumed pretty much as quickly as we bought it. But we wanted to see if we could put some age on a \$10 bottle — and then we forgot about the bottle and let it slip past the “drink by” date of 4/8/11 we had hung on the neck of the bottle. Still, with only a year over, we figured it was still good and were just plain curious to see what it tasted like.

The color was blood orange with amber that you see in older wines; it's as if they are losing their color. For a nose we got a bit of earth, but not much else. We swished the glass to get as much as we could out of it and got a bit of fruit, but most of the life of this bottle was gone. It was like chewing on a bunch of twigs, one said. Another thought it was sherry-like in flavor. Some of us thought it wasn't drinkable but others didn't mind it and thought it would pair well with a fatty meal or some cheese. All agreed it was past its prime at 11 years. All in all, though, for \$10 it was fun to see what would happen to a wine and we were glad for the experience.

Our second cellar pull was a **2008 Pinot**



Noir Migration from Anderson Valley in Sonoma, from the Duckhorn folks. This wine normally retails for \$35, but we got it on a state power buy for \$19.49, a real bargain for higher-end pinot. We actually tasted this wine first because it was younger and a pinot. For color we got light red or garnet. The nose was a bit fruity but not jammy. This nose was more on the stern side. For taste we got a “That's very nice” out of one of the tasters. Though we

could taste a bit of the oak from the barrel, a solid structure came though, of fruit, spice and the backbone from the oak. No smoke in this 2008 from the wildfires that year, which claimed much of the 2008 harvest. We agreed that this was more of the burgundy-style pinot and we guess that was why it was priced at the \$19.49. Though people expect pinots to be jammy, many of us prefer the more structured Burgundy style.

We called the state to see if it had any bottles of the Migration left and it didn't. Too bad.

Each week in “Red, White & Green,” two wine-lovers look at red and white wines, none over \$20 (and most under \$15), in an attempt to find some great bottles for good prices. All prices are according to the state liquor store (nh.liquor.state.nh.us) unless otherwise stated.

Drink Listings Classes/workshops

• **WINE LANGUAGE & SECRETS OF SOMMELIERS** class at WineNot Boutique, 170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, winenotboutique.com, on Fri., April 27, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Costs \$30 and registration is required.

• **WINES OF NORTH & SOUTH AMERICA** class will

be held at WineNot Boutique, 170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, winenotboutique.com, on Sat., April 28, from 5 to 7 p.m. Costs \$35 and registration is required.

• **WINES OF NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA & SOUTH AFRICA** class at WineNot Boutique, 170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, winenotboutique.com, on Sat., May 5, 5-7 p.m. The class costs \$35 and registration is required.

Special wine tastings

• **TEMPRANILLO TASTING** will be held at WineNot Boutique, 170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, winenotboutique.com, on Thurs., April 26, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The tasting will feature nine different Tempranillos from three price ranges. The tasting costs \$40 and registration is required.

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POP CULTURE

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honored

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• Kickstarting a film project

POP CULTURE:

CDS

**Yukon Blonde, *Tiger Talk*
Dine Alone Records, March 20**

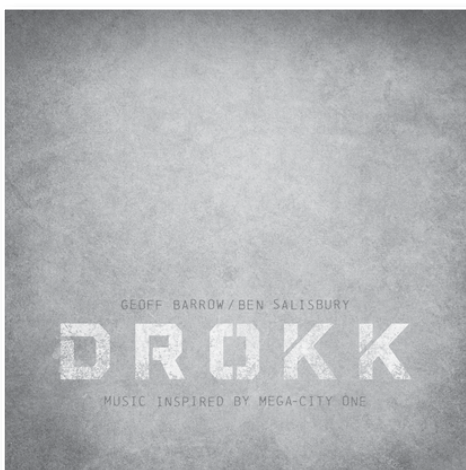


Watch closely now — I still occasionally stumble across a good one that's being underreported. In one of the happier surprises of the year, an alt-rock band claiming to come from Canada doesn't put up a bunch of half-asleep wine-gulper-pop tunes but actually makes a desperate, calculated and musically successful run for the end zone of true rock-stardom. It's a quantum leap from the futzing around they did previously on a couple of EPs and one full-length; basically the idea was to streamline everything and just make a bunch of great songs. It almost seems as though they decided to combine Arcade

Fire with Howard Jones and... jeez, what, REO Speedwagon? Yes, the band Fun is already making giant commercial strides with the '80s-arena-rock angle, but this is more earthy, more barn-rocking on its Arcade Fire side, and meanwhile, holy crow, it's guitar solos and stuff, old-school rock-club half-punk tempos, like something Katrina and the Waves would be opening shows for. Their one-sheet alludes to a lot of agonizing over the riffs and tones, but sorry, it doesn't come off as cold calculation, just really good stuff — I mean, the closest thing you've ever heard to "Radio" is Robert Plant's third solo album. Oh, don't even try to grok my silly references, just buy this thing and send me a thank-you card.

A+ —Eric W. Saeger

**Drok, *Music Inspired By Mega City One*
Invada Records, May 8**



News of a collaboration between Portishead's Geoff Barrow and BBC soundtracker Ben Salisbury would normally portend some pretty cool sympho-electro with trippy beats, but this LP, born of their mutual love for the 2000 AD comic book universe in which Judge Dredd holds court, is the polar opposite of that. These are retro 1980s keyboard fractals right out of *Running Man*, stuff that could be taste-tested with anything John Carpenter ever made. And that's really the whole scoop here — if your world revolves around that comic book series so much that you can identify the individual fictional street or tenement or android that

inspired each of these rather random little ditties, you'll be all set, but if not, you'll scratch your head for a minute before hitting the eject button. Obviously a labor of love for a narrow, and very British, niche. **B-** —Eric W. Saeger

Playlist

*A seriously abridged
compendium of recent and
future CD releases*

• I don't imagine there are many serious audiophiles who are both (A) young enough to love dubstep music enough to buy rare imports, and (B) old enough to have the money to buy rare imports, but if ever there was a time to be one of those people, it's now, being that there's a Japanese import coming out next week comprising two **Burial** EPs, namely *Street Halo* and *Kindred*. Both of those recent EPs have been game-changers in electronic music, really awesome stuff that you should hear, unless you like really awful music, like everyone else seems to.

• Debatably underrated Cali-punk outfit **Pennywise** release their 10th studio LP next week. Titled *All or Nothing*, it features the vocals of new singing guy Zoli Téglás, who, oddly enough, sounds like a Cali-punk singer. This album will not reinvent the wheel, but it'll be fun watching the guys on the punk-rock blogs argue back and forth about whether or not this new album, full of the same kind of jolly lukewarm four-chord yell-fest songs they've been doing since 1988, is "good": "It doesn't shred enough!" "Neither does your food processor!" "Poopyhead!" "Dummy!"

• *American Idol*-country-pop music-fraud **Carrie Underwood** releases her new album, *Blown Away*, on Tuesday. As usual, the experience of listening to this overproduced set of pasteurized processed nonsense songs will be like having your ears shrink-wrapped and sold in the small appliances aisle at Walmart, but I'm done trying to fix you people.

• Ha ha, it's a new album by famous "alternative music product" **Marilyn Manson**, out on Tuesday! If you're one of his diehard fans, you've already heard the first single from this *Born Villain* album, titled "No Reflection," and then sat down and reevaluated your entire life for wasting it as a Marilyn Manson fan, but have you heard the other song, "Overneath the Path of Misery?" Good, then you must have some idea of how badly the band Hanzel and Gretel kicks Marilyn Manson's ass nowadays, too, right?

• Don't look so bummed, lovers of wrestling-metal, there's one for you, too, because **Hurt** releases their new LP, *The Crux*, next week. If you close your eyes and don't look at the album cover, it'll be like listening to a bad Shinedown album, you know, like, um, you know, any Shinedown album.

• And finally, you may want to know what I'm listening to when I'm not being a crab, grumbling about random stupid stuff. That would be the new **Chrome Cranks** album, *Ain't No Lies in Blood*, which you should buy. Just more solid, sound advice for you to ignore, nothing to see here. —Eric W. Saeger

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By Michelle Cerulli
mcerulli@hippopress.com

When Marion Stoddart first moved to Groton, Mass., in 1962, the nearby Nashua River was a different color — bright yellow, red, green, purple — depending on the day and the dyes local mills and factories were using. A living creature could not be found in its waters. A posted wooden sign warned visitors: “Hold Your Nose! Nashua River Ahead.”

Stoddart has devoted her life to cleaning the Nashua River, which in the early 1960s was declared one of the 10 most polluted rivers in the country. A documentary by Susan Edwards called *The Work of 1000* illustrates the story of Stoddart's efforts and will be coming to Hollis-Brookline High School Wednesday, May 2, along with Stoddart herself.

The 30-minute documentary has won such awards as Best Short Film at the Reel Earth Environmental Film Festival in New Zealand, Best Documentary Short at the Rivers' Edge Festival in Paducah, Ky., and Best Call to Action Film at the Green Screen Environmental Film Festival in Venice, Calif.

It has also garnered praise from film festivals including the Wild & Scenic Film Festival, Brattleboro International Women's Film Festival and the Los Angeles International Film Festival.

The Hollis event, which is a joint effort by the Hollis Social Library, Beaver Brook Association and the Hollis-Brookline High School Green Group, will include a screening of the documentary, a Q&A session with Stoddart and an informal reception, during which attendees can speak with the environmental advocate and leader.

“The reason why I believe this is such an important program for Hollis is that ... we have been a direct beneficiary of all of her work,” said Lucinda Mazza, Hollis Social Library director. “Her success in cleaning up the river has been really touted and recognized internationally as an ecological success story.”

Stoddart, a housewife with three young children in 1962, said she made a commitment to herself to clean the river before she realized exactly how she would do this.

“I wanted to make a difference in the world,” Stoddart said. “I thought I would take on the challenge of restoring the river, which I thought was accomplishable during my lifetime, something that I could do.”

She said that being active in the League of Women Voters, which she said was one of two organizations in the country concerned about water at the time, provided her with a knowledge base of water resources and the political process of getting legislation passed.

She identified and reached out to leaders along the Nashua Watershed. She spent hours talking with mayors, selectmen, planning board members and others in Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

“Hollis played a really major role in the cleanup of the river,” said Stoddart, who has been profiled in National Geographic



(top) The Nashua River was one of the 10 most polluted rivers in the U.S. in the early 1960s. (above) The Nashua River today. Courtesy photos.

and recognized by the United Nations. “I was on the Groton Conservation Commission in the mid-1960s, and we received a letter from the town of Hollis.”

The letter detailed the town's efforts to restore the river, including a petition to then-N.H. Gov. Walter Peterson protesting the abysmal conditions of the river and seeking his help. This petition inspired Stoddart and her team to submit a similar petition to Massachusetts' governor at the time.

“That was very, very important,” she said. “It was the beginning of our successful efforts. The Massachusetts Clean Water Act passed in 1966,” making the state the first in the U.S. to pass a water act, she said.

The next step was getting the facilities along the river to help fund the clean up, Stoddart said.

“It was an effort to inform and educate people and get people to realize how important they were to making a difference,” said Stoddart, emphasizing that the process has been a collaborative effort between the two states.

The second major milestone was a public hearing held at Fitchburg State College (now University), for which Stoddart and her team worked a year to prepare. Hundreds of people showed up to testify as to how clean they wanted the Nashua River to be, she said. As a result of the hearing, the federal government set the river's classification to “B,” which meant it would be suitable for fishing, swimming, boating and other recreational activities as well as for irrigation purposes. Prior to the hearing, the river was classified as “U” — unsuitable for the transport of waste.

“I'm pleased and gratified at the progress we've made,” said Stoddart, of the now clean and recreational Nashua River. “The job isn't done; we want to keep the river

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POP CULTURE:

clean. We want it to be cleaner."

These days, in addition to sharing her story, Stoddart and the Nashua River Watershed Association, which she founded and which is considered a model for natural resource protection and environmental education, is working on acquiring the land along the river, which she said has many functions.

"It helps to prevent flooding, filter pollutants, is a habitat for wildlife," and a public resource for hiking, biking, horseback riding, educational purposes and more, she said.

Stoddart says what she enjoys most about sharing her story with others is helping to inspire people.

"You do not need to be really smart to make a difference, and you do not need to know in advance how you're going to do it," she said. "You need to create a vision

of what you want to do and find people that share that vision with you."

Stoddart recounted a special moment from one speaking event: "A child asked me a question after the film. She said, 'I would like to save an endangered species. Do you think I can do it?' And I said, 'YES.' It's making people believers of themselves. They need to know what it is they want to do and commit to it, and they'll do it."

Screening of *The Works of 1000*, Q&A with Marion Stoddart and reception

When: Wednesday, May 2, 6:30 p.m.

Where: Hollis-Brookline High School Auditorium, 24 Cavalier Court, Hollis

Cost: Free and open to the public. No registration required.

More info: Call 465-7721, or visit workof1000.org.

POP CULTURE:

You're Not Doing It Right by Michael Ian Black (Gallery Books, 2012, 243 pages)



"You're not doing it right" is what Michael Ian Black's wife said to him the first time he smoked pot, and he realized the same thing could be said of his life.

The comedian and screenwriter has not been having sex right, raising his kids right, playing cards right, being married right. Suspicion of inadequacy — no, make that *knowledge* of inadequacy — dogs him relentlessly.

And reading his new memoir, you're inclined to agree. He's *not* doing it right. Black is failing at life spectacularly.

He fights viciously with his gorgeous, brainy wife, who threatens divorce repeatedly. He's an atheist who tells his young children he thinks their Catholic faith is a lie. He is addicted to Ambien, takes Lexapro for depression, drinks, and sometimes combines all three. He thinks this is normal. Worse, he thinks this is good.

"I used to think that there was something noble about abstention, as if self-denial led to greater clarity of thought or maybe even greater happiness. ..."

"Any new pill that finds its way into my hand will find its way into my mouth. At this point, I'll pretty much try anything. That's neither good nor bad, but it's the truth," he writes. "Perhaps this is not the most responsible line of thinking for an adult man with two small children, but it works for me. Besides, you have no idea how annoying my kids are."

May we repeat?

Yes, Michael Ian Black, you're doing it wrong.

It's all reminiscent of the movie *Terms of Endearment* when Debra Winger's character, Emma, visits her best friend in New York City. At lunch with a klatch of chic urban women, Emma is aghast as she hears of two abortions, three divorces, a child in boarding school, a grown woman who won't talk to her mother, and intricate details of a yeast infection. To the other women, this is normal, airy banter — just another day in paradise — but to the grounded, dying

Emma, the stories repulse.

Seriously: *Neither good, nor bad, but the truth?*

Black, who legally changed his name because there was another actor named Michael Schwartz, is entitled to his moral relativism, and we wish him luck selling this book in the red states. He insists, though, that, deep inside, we're all exactly like him. The "befuddled and inept," are the majority, he says. "We're like a massive army of morons. None of us has *any idea* what we are doing. Yet somehow we remain upright."

Thoroughly insulted, I read every word.

It's crass and offensive and contains way too many anecdotes that belong deep in the Patriots' locker room, not a general-circulation book. But *You're Not Doing It Right* is a laugh riot.

Black said he agonized over the book and it took him three years to write. The effort shows. The book has perfect pitch. Funnier than David Sedaris, Black delivers a joke in nearly every paragraph. They're fresh. Bit-ting. Lyrical.

He finally did something right.

Anyone who has ever tried to adopt a pet from a New England animal shelter will howl at the chapter called "Nibbles." In it, Black and his wife attempt an animal rescue without the all-important bank statement. A slip with the balance was not enough. It had to be a regularly monthly statement showing every transaction. "Surely, even Oskar Schindler never had to work as hard as this," he says.

Black is honest — maybe too honest for a man who says he wants to stay married — about the difficulties of married life, and of raising young children. He wed Martha dubious of the institution, since his parents, and all his aunts and uncles, divorced.

"Moreover," he writes, "I would estimate that well over half of my friends also come from 'broken homes,' a phrase I have always found needlessly melodramatic: Have you heard? Michael's home is broken? My God, how will he bathe?"

Of fatherhood, in a chapter titled "I Hate My Baby":

"I cannot think. I cannot function. I am suffering. Martha is suffering, too, but I do not care. Right now, I am immune to anyone's suffering but my own. I did not

BOOKS

POP CULTURE:

realize that when people said, 'You won't get any sleep,' what they were *actually* saying was, 'You won't get any sleep'."

But despite their marital histrionics, and Black's dubious methods of pursuing happiness, you pull for him, and them, for the

BOOKS

family. It's a rollicking good read, an invitation to hope. You hope for a sequel, 40 years hence. You hope he gets off the damn Ambien. **A** —*Jennifer Graham*

BOOK & LECTURE LISTINGS

Libraries

- **Amherst Town Library**
14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288, amherst.lib.nh.us
- **Bedford Public Library**
3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford 472-3023, bedford.lib.nh.us
- **Concord Public Library**
45 Green St., 225-8670, www.concordpubliclibrary.net
- **Derry Public Library**
64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140, derry.lib.nh.us
- **Goffstown Public Library**
2 High St., Goffstown, 497-2102, goffstown.lib.nh.us
- **Hollis Social Library**
2 Monument Sq., Hollis, 465-7721, hollis.nh.us
- **Hooksett Public Library**
1701B Hooksett Rd., Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org
- **Manchester City Library**
405 Pine St. (main branch) and 76 N. Main St. (West branch), 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us
- **Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum**
18 Highlawn Road, Warner, 456-2600, indianmuseum.org
- **Nashua Public Library**
2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610, nashualibrary.org
- **Rodgers Memorial Library**
194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, rogerslibrary.org
- **Tucker Free Library**
31 Western Ave., Henniker, 428-3471, tuckerfreelibrary.org
- **Wadleigh Memorial Library**
49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408, wadleigh.lib.nh.us
- **Wilton Public Library**
7 Forest Road, Wilton, 654-2581, wiltonlibrarynh.org

Bookstores

- **Barnes & Noble**
1741 South Willow St., Manchester, 668-5557; 235 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-5961; bn.com
- **Double Midnight Comics & Collectibles**
245 Maple St., Manchester, 669-9636, dmcomics.com
- **Gibson's Bookstore**
27 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com
- **MainStreet Bookends**
16 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2700, mainstreetbookends.com
- **River Run Books**
20 Congress St., Portsmouth, 431-2100, riverrunbookstore.com
- **Toadstool Bookshop**
586 Nashua St., Milford, 673-1734, toadbooks.com.

Other

- **Manchester Historic Association**
200 Bedford St., 622-7531, manchesterhistoric.org
- **New Hampshire Humanities Council**
19 Pillsbury St., Concord, 224-4071, www.nhhc.org
- **New Hampshire State Library**
20 Park St., Concord, www.nh.gov/nhsl

In the spotlight



Poetry slam finalist

A 2011 National Poetry Slam finalist will be featured at the Slam Free or Die open mike at Milly's Tavern, 500 N. Commercial St., Manchester, on Thursday, April 26, at 9 p.m. (sign-ups for the open mike start at 7 p.m., with readings beginning at 8 p.m.) The featured poet, Franny Choi (pictured), was also a finalist in the 2011 Women of the World Poetry Slam and had her work published in Fringe Magazine. Her original play *Mask Dances* was featured at the 2011 Writing is Live Festival. There will be a \$3 cover charge at the door.

- **New Hampshire Writers' Project**
SNHU, 2521 N. River Road, Manchester, 314-7980, nhwritersproject.org
- **Rivier College**
420 Main St., Nashua, 888-1311, rivier.edu.
- **UNH Manchester**
400 Commercial St., Manchester, 641-4101, unhm.unh.edu

Author events

- **IRA FLATOW** host of NPR program *Science Friday*, visits NH Tuesday, May 1, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Memorial Union Building of University of New Hampshire in Durham. Tickets \$12 general admission. *Science Friday* airs on NHPR on Fridays at 2 p.m. Flatow will be interviewed on stage by NHPR host Brady Carlson and will take audience questions. Call 228-8910 or visit www.nhpr.org.
- **ELIZABETH PERCER** will talk about her novel *An Uncommon Education* Thurs., May 3, at 7 p.m. at Water Street Bookstore in Exeter.
- **TIM HORVATH** will talk about his short story collection, *Understories*, on Fri., May 4, at 7 p.m. at Water Street Bookstore in Exeter.
- **AN EVENING WITH GARISON KEILLOR** is Sun., May 6, at 7 p.m. at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, www.palacetheatre.org. Ticket prices range from \$40 to \$100.
- **MITCHELL ZUCKOFF** will talk about his book *Lost in Shangri-La: A True Story of Survival, Adventure, and the Most Incredible Rescue Mission of World War II*, on Tues., May 8, at 7 p.m. at Water Street Bookstore in Exeter.
- **ERIK LARSON** will talk about his recent New York Times best-seller *In the Garden of Beasts* on Tues., May 8, at 7:30 p.m. at The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth. Tickets cost \$13 and are available at the box office, 436-2400 or www.themusichall.org. Copies of the book can be purchased in advance at the Music Hall box office. The producers ask patrons to support this series by purchasing their books through The Music Hall.
- **DAN BROWN** will talk about writing, movie-making, science, religion and more at A Benefit &

Celebration of Writers on a New England Stage on Fri., May 18, at 7:30 p.m. at The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth. Tickets to the event cost \$50 and are available at the box office, 436-2400 or www.themusichall.org. Funds raised will help support the Writers on a New England Stage series. Brown is the author of *The Da Vinci Code* and other bestselling novels.

Lectures and discussions

- **A WALK BACK IN TIME: SECRETS OF OLD CELLAR HOLES** presented by history writer Adair Mulligan on Fri., May 4, at 7 p.m. in Weare Town Hall, North Stark Highway, Weare center. Refreshments will be served. For info call Weare Public Library at 529-2044. Visit wearepl.wordpress.com.
- **BILL MCKIBBEN** will be the keynote speaker at the spring fundraising dinner for the Coalition for Open Democracy on Fri., May 11, 6-8 p.m. at the McLane Audubon Center, 84 Silk Farm Road in Concord. Doors open at 5:15 for social hour. Tickets are \$40 and seating is limited; make reservations by May 6. This event is open to the public. Call 661-8621. McKibben is the author of several books about climate change. Visit www.coalitionforopendemocracy.org.
- **HOW MONEY CORRUPTS CONGRESS—AND A PLAN TO STOP IT** discussion with Harvard Professor Lawrence Lessig, author of *Republic, Lost*, on Mon., May 21, at 7 p.m. in the Nashua Public Library's theater.

Book discussions

- **BOOK GROUP NETWORKING NIGHT** Members of local book groups are invited to the Nashua Public Library on Thurs., May 31, at 7 p.m. for networking, socializing and sharing ideas. Staff will explain the resources the library offers to book groups. Attendees will be the first to find out the title of the 2012 Nashua Reads book and get a chance to reserve copies for their groups. Refreshments will be served. People who are not members of book groups but would like to be may also attend. RSVP required; go to www.tinyurl.com/npldiscussion. For info call Carol at 589-4610

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POP CULTURE:

FILM

Kickstarting a local film

Producer crowdsources *Final Task*

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

The clock is ticking for local photographer and filmmaker Daniel Young.

Young utilized an online crowd-sourcing tool called Kickstarter to raise funds for the production of his film, *Final Task*, which he's hoping to produce in the Granite State this summer. Time runs out on Thursday, April 26.

The film is about the last survivor on Earth. The man "wants to finish a project before the inevitable," Young said. One of Young's friends turned the concept into a graphic novel, and Young thought it would make a great film, so he converted it into a screenplay. The message of the film involves coping with loneliness.

Kickstarter allows anyone to fund creative projects from music, games, books, theater and, in this case, films. Users pledge money to a project they believe in and in return projects offer incentives, which, for *Final Task*, could be a thank you card or a part in the film as an extra, Young said. If the film gets funded through Kickstarter, Young is hoping to shoot the film next month and is hoping it will be complete in time for this year's New Hampshire Film Festival.

Young had shelved the project for a "good long time" until he ran into Kevin Potter, one of his high school friends, at a store in Amherst. Young knew Potter, a Milford resident, had done some voiceover work and that he'd been involved in film. After the chance meeting, Young thought about it, and it hit him that Potter would be perfect for the lead role in *Final Task*.

"So I dusted the script off and e-mailed it over to him," Young said. Potter was interested. That was six or seven months ago, and since that time, Young has re-worked the script and the pair has gotten the project off the ground.

Young is in the thick of fundraising. The goal is to reach \$7,500 through Kickstarter. He's also soliciting donations via Facebook.

"Like any good project, it requires money," he said. Young attends a number of New Hampshire film festivals, and he said just about every film he's seen has been crowd-sourced in one way or another.

"I figured, let's give it a whirl," Young said.

So Young went ahead and shot a mock trailer, "something to put together and to show people, so it's not just, 'Hey, give us some money,'" Young said. "This shows what we can do and what we're capable of. We're hoping to get enough interest out there to the public and friends and families that are willing to support us."

This project is step one for Young and company. His only goal is to get the film out to a film festival. He's hoping local festivals will pick it up. There's a festival in Houston that is already interested in the film, he said.

"We're thinking small for this project, but maybe the next one will be a little bigger," Young said.

One benefit from shooting a movie about the last man on the planet: not a lot of actors to round up. Young did keep the budget in mind when he wrote the script.

"This is the first project," Young said. "I



New Hampshire filmmaker Daniel Young is using the online crowdsourcing tool Kickstarter.com, to fund his film *Final Task*.

kept that in mind. I tried to think of scenes and sets and stuff like that that would be readily available, like a kitchen or a bedroom, for instance."

The film did have a couple more elaborate sets in the original story, but Young reworked it to make the sets fit the budget. And despite the film's being about a single character, it does have some flashback sequences involving other actors.

"The other great thing about this, and it involves the crew, is that everyone is volunteering their time," Young said. "None of us are getting a paycheck. It's all about the experience and making a great film."

"We're being optimistic," Young said last week. "We're behind where we probably should be to have funding from Kickstarter."

It's all or nothing with Kickstarter — you either meet your fundraising goal and then receive all the funding, or you don't reach the goal and then you get nothing.

If Young doesn't reach the goal, the project won't end.

"We still push forward, we'll just push forward at a different pace," Young said, adding his team has some money to put toward the project. "We probably wouldn't be able to finish it this summer, but maybe we could have it ready by next summer."

Throwing it up again on Kickstarter later in the filmmaking process is definitely a possibility. Maybe they'd brand it a little differently — instead of using Kickstarter to help shoot the film, Young could use it to help them finish the film.

The film had 25 backers as of last week, and of those, two or three were independent contributors — not family or friends. One of the backers has made a habit of contributing to other end-of-the-world-type film projects, Young said.

"It's almost like a feather in our cap," Young said. "All of a sudden, it all became that much more real."

Young has been a still photographer for more than 20 years. He worked for Wild Bill Studios in Manchester until it closed several years ago. At that time, the studio had just begun dabbling in video and television production prior to its closing. That experience piqued Young's interest.

"I really caught the bug for it," said Young, who also produces a show called *Garage X* on Access Nashua, Nashua's public access television station. "I had wanted to do filmmaking or television work for quite a long time ... and that was kind of my inspiration, to say, 'Let's go ahead and jump off the diving board,' so to speak."

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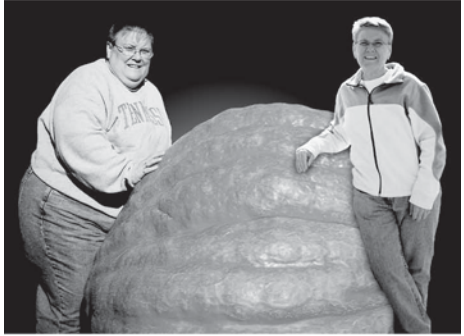
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POP CULTURE: **FILM** Continued



The Lucky One

The Lucky One (PG-13)
A Marine looking for direction finds a new life in The Lucky One, another movie based on a freaking Nicholas Sparks book.

I shouldn't say that. I've never read a Nicholas Sparks book and, sure, I'm a tiny bit envious of a writer who is able to get so many of his books turned into movies without having wizards or vampires in them. But the movies made from Sparks' books all have a certain quality, something too buttery and too sweet, like a Cinnabon. Like a Cinnabon that comes with a side of unconvincing romance.

Logan (Zac Efron) returns home from his third tour in Iraq all jittery from several close calls and unsure how to move forward in life. One of the things that helped him hang on during the difficult times in the war zone was a laminated photo of a pretty woman he found in the rubble. Because he picked it up just as a mortar hit the spot he had just been standing in, he considered the photo a good luck charm. So when life at his sister's home proves too difficult, Logan and his dog Zeus hit the road. He decides to seek out the photo woman to tell her thank you for getting him through the war. Thanks to the Internet and a lighthouse in the background of the photo, he figures out that she's from somewhere near a small town in Louisiana. He walks there (from Colorado because, hey, why not) and then asks around, eventually finding out that the woman is Beth (Taylor Schilling), who lives and works at the farm-turned-dog-kennel outside of town.

And what a dog kennel it is! The kennel, run by Beth's grandma, Ellie (Blythe Danner) is at a well-kept, country-chic farm where the staff is dedicated to training your dog and caring for its dietary needs. In addition to having as caretakers a kind grandma with a good sense of humor and a flair for scarves, and Beth, who takes the dogs for daily runs, there is Beth's son, Ben (Riley Thomas Stewart), the requisite moppet. Logan arrives at this canine heaven all ready to tell the story of the photo, but Beth mistakenly thinks he's there about a help wanted ad. She isn't so sure about him at first, but Ellie decides to give him a chance. Logan gets a poetically run-down house to live in and eases into this new peaceful life. Slowly, Beth warms to this handsome new man in her life and tells him of her troubles: a crappy divorce and a brother, also in the military, killed in the war.

Because if there aren't literal storm clouds (*Nights in Rodanthe*), a Nicholas Sparks novel-movie needs figurative ones, we get Keith (Jay R. Ferguson). He's a sheriff's deputy — and Beth's ex and Ben's father. He didn't particularly enjoy being married to Beth, but he doesn't want her seeing other guys either. When things between Logan and Beth start to get googly-

eyed, Keith stomps around all "I'll take Ben from you if you keep seeing this dude."

Which is preposterous. Even the movie's explanation that Keith's family and his judge father have a lot of weight in the town makes his threats insane. Child custody just doesn't work that way. "My ex-wife's new boyfriend has dreamier eyes than me" is simply not grounds to change a custody agreement. AND the movie suggests that Keith's father likes Beth and knows Keith is a bit of a blowhard doofus. Is he really going to risk scandal in an election year (Judge Dad is running for mayor) by putting a thumb on the scales of justice for a son who needs about 50 percent more chilling out and 80 percent less pointless rage? It is the central — the only, really — hurdle to the Beth/Logan romance and it is infuriatingly stupid.

And romance is the driving force of this movie — romance and set and costume design. Ellie and Beth may be just two women trying to make it in a homespun business, but the barn, the house, the clothes they wear reflect a kind of simple, casual elegance that only comes from lots of money. The camera seems to linger on this skirt or that chess piece, this well-worn book or that charmingly sparse room. I wasn't thinking "poor tortured souls," I was thinking "lamp — Restoration Hardware, blouse — Land's End." Even when the choices made in these areas aren't Martha Stewart perfect (the dress Beth wears in a climactic scene looks like an 8-year-old's homemade Easter dress; it is baffling and yet I could not look away), the stuff, not the people, seemed to draw my attention.

Though, perhaps this focus on things over characters is an attempt to mitigate the mediocre-to-hokey quality of the acting. Sure, Danner is fun and Efron is, er, not the worst actor in this movie. But Ferguson is such an over-the-top bully that for a minute I thought I was watching one of those Christian movies where half the actors are church members. Schilling's performance is also strange — she can be wooden one moment (though the chocolate-colored farm-house floors are also "wooden" and yet they gleam and shine and are perhaps going for a supporting actor nomination) and overly emotive the next. It was only when I got to IMDB that I realized where I'd seen her before — as the robotic Dagny Taggart in *Atlas Shrugged*. She is more human-like here, but you get the sense that her emotion chip is still in beta testing.

Stiff, predictable and overly styled, *The Lucky One* comes off as the love child of a J. Crew catalog and a Lifetime movie. **D+** — Amy Diaz

Rated PG-13 for some sexuality and violence. Directed by Scott Hicks with a screenplay by Will Fetters (from a novel by Nicholas Sparks), The Lucky One is an hour and 41 minutes long and distributed by Warner Bros.

Cinema locator

AMC Tyngsborough
440 Middlesex St., Tyngsborough,
Mass., 978-649-3980.
Chunky's Cinema & Pub Nashua
151 Coliseum Ave., chunkys.com
Chunky's Pelham Cinema & Pub
150 Bridge St., Pelham, 635-7499
Cinemagic Hooksett
1226 Hooksett Road, Hooksett,
644-4629, cinemagicmovies.com

Cinemagic Merrimack 12
11 Executive Place Dr., Merrimack,
423-0240, cinemagicmovies.com
Flagship Cinemas Derry
10 Ashleigh Dr., Derry, 437-8800
AMC at The Loop
90 Pleasant Valley St., Methuen,
Mass., 978-738-8942
O'Neil Cinema 12
Apple Tree Mall, Londonderry,
434-8633

Regal Concord
282 Loudon Road, Concord, 226-
3800
Regal Hooksett 8
100 Technology Drive, Hooksett,
641-3456
Showcase Cinemas Lowell
32 Reiss Ave., Lowell, Mass.,
978-551-0055

Movies outside the cineplex

RED RIVER THEATRES

11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-4600, www.redrivertheatres.org
• **In Darkness** (R, 2011) Thurs., April 26, 2, 5 and 8 p.m.
• **Salmon Fishing in The Yemen** (PG-13, 2011) Thurs., April 26, at 2:05, 5:25 and 7:45 p.m.; Fri., April 27, through Sun., April 29, at 1:15, 3:30, 5:45 & 8:05 p.m.; Mon., April 30, through Wed., May 2, at 2:05, 5:25 & 7:45 p.m.
• **The Deep Blue Sea** (R, 2011) Fri., April 27, through Sun., April 29, at 12:45, 3:10, 5:35 & 8 p.m.; Mon., April 30, through Wed., May 2, at 2, 5:35 & 8 p.m.
• **We Need to Talk About Kevin** (R, 2011) Fri., April 27, through Sun., April 29, at 2, 5:30 & 7:40 p.m.; Mon., April 30, through Wed., May 2, at 2:10, 5:30 & 7:40 p.m.
• **Strong** a feature film from the PBS series Independent Lens, on Tues., May 15, at 6 p.m.
• **Who Cares About Kelsey** (2012) documentary from Sun., May 20, to Sat., May 26, at 7 p.m.

WILTON TOWN HALL

Main Street in Wilton, wilton-townhalltheatre.com
• **The Deep Blue Sea** (R, 2011) Thurs., April 26, at 7:30 p.m.
• **Shame** (NC-17, 2011) Fri., April 27, through Wed., May 2, at 7:30 p.m., and Sun., April 29, at 2 & 4:30 p.m.
• **Salmon Fishing in the Yemen** (PG-13, 2011) Fri., April 27, through Wed., May 2, at 7:30 p.m., and Sun., April 29, at 2 p.m.
• **Gentleman Jim** (1942) Sat., April 28, at 4:30 p.m.
• **Don Q, Son of Zorro** (1925) silent film with musical accompaniment, Sun., April 29, at 4:30 p.m.
• **The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel** (PG-13, 2011) starts Fri., May 4.
• **New England Bollywood Film Festival**, Sat., May 12, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., will include *There'll Always Be Stars in the Sky* (1983), *Road, Movie* (2009), a live Masala Bhangra dance work-out by video, and *Sholya* (1975). See bollywoodne.wordpress.com for full schedule, film descriptions and admission information.

MILFORD DRIVE-IN

Route 101A in Milford, 673-4090, www.milforddrivein.com, Showing Fri., April 27, and Sat., April 28:
• Screen 1: **The Pirates: Band of Misfits** (PG); **The Three Stooges** (PG)
• Screen 2: **The Hunger Games** (PG-13); **21 Jump St.** (R)

PALACE THEATRE

80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, www.palacetheatre.org
Silent movie screenings will feature live music by Jeff Rapsis. Admission costs \$8 per person.

THE JAM FACTORY

1211 Elm St., Manchester, www.thejamfactorynh.com
• Local indie films the last Saturday of each month from 8 to 11 p.m. Event is 21+; suggested donation of \$5.

MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY

405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, www.manchester.lib.nh.us
• **Captain America: The First Avenger** (PG-13, 2011) Wed., May 2, at 1 p.m.
• **Water for Elephants** (PG-13, 2011) Tues., May 8, at 6 p.m., and Wed., April 9, at 1 p.m.
• **Hitch** (PG-13, 2005) Wed., May 16, at 1 p.m.
• **Larry Crowne** (PG-13, 2011) Wed., May 23, at 1 p.m.
• **Midway** (PG, 1976) Wed., May 30, at 1 p.m.

WEST BRANCH COMMUNITY LIBRARY

76 N. Main St., Manchester, 624-6560, www.manchester.lib.nh.us
• **Lady and the Tramp** (G) Fri., April 27, at 3 p.m.
• **Adventures of TinTin** (PG, 2011) on Friday, May 4, at 3 p.m.
• **Born to be Wild** (G, 2011) Fri., May 11, at 3 p.m.
• **Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol** (PG-13, 2011) Fri., May 25, at 3 p.m.

CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

45 Green St., Concord, 230-3682, www.onconcord.com/library
• **Moonstruck** (PG, 1987) Thurs., April 26, at 6:30 p.m.

NHTI

Sweeney Auditorium, 31 College Drive, Concord, 271-7185, www.nhti.edu. Films are open to the public. Admission is free with a \$5 suggested donation.

• **2012 New Hampshire High School Short Film Festival** on Sat., June 9, from noon to 3:30 p.m. Free and open to the public.

NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY

NPL Theater, 2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4600, www.nashualibrary.org. Call 589-4646 for the library's film line and a schedule of upcoming movies. Films will air on May 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 at 7 p.m. Films subject to change. Seating is limited. Food and drink are not permitted in the theater.

KELLEY LIBRARY

234 Main St., Salem, 898-7064, www.kelleylibrary.org
• **The Time Traveler's Wife** (PG-13, 2009) Thurs., May 3, at 6:30 p.m.
• **American Graffiti** (1973) Thurs., June 7, at 6:30 p.m.

POLLARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

401 Merrimack St., Lowell, Mass., 978-970-4120, www.pollardml.org film night on the second Thursday of each month from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Films are not rated.
• **Before Your Eyes** (2010) Turkish and Kurdish with English subtitles, on Thurs., May 10, at 6:30 p.m.

THE MUSIC HALL

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, www.themusichall.org. Some of these films are being screened at Music Hall Loft, at 131 Congress St. See website for details.
• **The Manchurian Candidate** (PG-13, 1962) Thurs., April 26, at 7 p.m.
• **The Salt of Life** (NR, 2011) Friday, April 27, through Tues., May 1, and Thurs., May 3, at 7 p.m.
• **El Bulli: Cooking in Progress** (NR, 2011) Wed., May 2, at 7 p.m.

COLBY-SAWYER COLLEGE

541 Main St. in New London, Clements Hall, 526-3000, www.colby-sawyer.edu. Films are open to the public. Admission is free.
• **Windcrossing: A Festival of Sight and Sound**, on Saturday, April 28, at 7 p.m. to celebrate the legacy of Professor Emeritus Donald Coonley, an Emmy award-winning filmmaker. The festival will include the premiere of two independent films, **The Checkup** *It's Not Not Safe* and short film **Exit 7A**. The festival will take place at the Sawyer Fine and Performing Arts Center. Admission is free.

CONGREGATION BETENU

5 Northern Blvd. Unit 1, in Amherst Call 886-1633. Send e-mail to betenu@nii.net.
• **Israel Inside** (2011) Thurs., April 26, at 7 p.m., in celebration of Israel Independence Day.

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

44 West St. in Keene, 352-1019
• **Love Free or Die** (2012) documentary about Bishop Gene Robinson, a gay priest who was elected bishop by the state's Episcopal Church in 2003. The film chronicles Robinson's ministry from 2008 to 2010. The film will premiere in New Hampshire on Friday, April 27. The event is free and open to the public. Call 352-1019.

THE FLYING MONKEY

39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com
• **The Mark of Zorro** (1921) silent film with live musical accompaniment on Thurs., May 17, at 6:30 p.m.
• **Wings** (1927) silent film with live musical accompaniment on Thurs., June 14, at 6:30 p.m.

MILFORD TWIN DRIVE-IN

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Friday 4/27 – Saturday 4/28

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Errol Flynn Alexis Smith in the true story
of a true gentleman of the boxing ring
"GENTLEMAN JIM" (1942)
Sat 4:30pm – free admission – donations to charity

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Nite Roundup

Local music & nightlife news

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Good on good:** The Natalie Turgeon Band celebrates its first CD of spirited country rock with a release party in Concord. It's a no-cover show, but the band is donating half the proceeds from disc sales to the Dan Doherty Benefit Fund, created to help with medical expenses for the Manchester police officer wounded in the line of duty last month. See The Natalie Turgeon Band on Saturday, April 27, at 9 p.m. at Alan's Restaurant, 133 N. Main St. in Boscawen. Go to www.natalie-turgeon.com.

• **West African rhythm:** Guinea-born drummer Sayon Camara joins New Hampshire-based Landaya Ensemble for an evening of percussive music featuring traditional Mandinka rhythms and songs from West Africa played on instruments like African flute, djembe and dunun drums and kamalen'goni — it's a hypnotic journey. See Sayon Camara and Landaya on Saturday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m. at Back Room at the Mill, 2 Central St. in Bristol. Go to www.landaya.com for more information and to hear samples of the band's energetic music.

• **Black back to back:** Lewis Black is cranky, a self-described "pissed off optimist" who seems close to bursting a blood vessel when he tears into a gripe. Politicians, celebrities, restaurant food and whether the world needs candy corn — all are targets in the funny man's act. Black appears for two shows in Concord, the second added after the first night quickly sold out. See Lewis Black on Saturday, April 28, and Sunday, April 29, at 8 p.m. at Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St. in Concord. Tickets are \$45-\$55 at www.ccanh.com.

• **In the oven:** Although billed as a Neapolitan pizzeria, the menu at 900 Degrees includes French onion soup, roasted shrimp cocktail and wild drinks with names like The Torched Lemonade. The Queen City eatery also features music, with a regular Sunday afternoon blues jam and live acoustic performers working every Thursday night. This week, Jackie Lee plays country blues, accompanying herself on guitar. See Jackie Lee on Thursday, April 26, at 7 p.m. at 900 Degrees, 50 Dow St. in Manchester, www.900degrees.com.

• **Breakout band:** The Eli Young Band is riding high on the success of its hit song "Crazy Girl," after the Texas band spent more than a decade of dues-paying. The group's country rock sound is both roadhouse rugged and Nashville polished, earning them opening slots for everyone from Alan Jackson to the Dave Matthews Band. This time around, they're headliners. See The Eli Young Band on Wednesday, May 2, at 8 p.m. at Whittemore Center Arena, 128 Main St. in Durham. Tickets are \$12-\$25 at www.ticketmaster.com.

The education of Dev

From a MacBook to music stardom

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Dev is riding high these days. "Naked," her duet with Enrique Iglesias, is the third single from her first solo album to hit the Billboard Top 10. The singer first gained notice when her infectious hook helped make "Like a G6" a No. 1 hit for Far East Movement. Built around a sample of her song "Booty Bounce," it was called the best pop track of 2010 by some dance music critics.

But four years ago, Dev (real name Devin Star Tailes) was just out of high school and working at Old Navy in her hometown of Manteca, Calif. In her spare time, she wrote and recorded songs in her bedroom with a MacBook and posted them on MySpace. However, music stardom was far from her mind — she was too shy to sing in public.

"I was in band and choir from fifth grade until I graduated," she says. "But this was different — they were my words and I was a lot more vulnerable and scared."

Bay Area production due The Cataracs heard her tracks and invited Dev to their Berkeley studio. During the first session, the nervous singer asked everyone to leave the room. Her stage fright would abate as Dev began an artist's apprenticeship — an exhaustive course in the music profession. She performed in clubs, worked as a featured vocalist with stars like David Guetta, Demi Lovato and Timbaland; she opened shows for Usher and Akon, appearing before thousands of fans.

How did she rise above her early inhibitions? "Nobody's ever asked me that question," Dev says with a slight pause. "But I remember just wanting to experience all this so bad and be comfortable that I really had to work very hard to get over those fears. The Cataracs helped me out a lot with that, to build my confidence — and I don't even know if they know that ... it definitely

took me a couple of years of practice, but I think I have it down now."

The Night The Sun Came Up, released in late March, provides the proof. It contains elements of the fly girl that lit up "Like a G6" and her early hit "Bass Down Low," with plenty of pulsing dance rhythms and A-list duets with Iglesias, Timbaland, Flo Rida and Fabolous. Beyond that, however, it reveals a side of Dev that most fans haven't experienced. Though she's a four-year veteran, this is truly a debut record.

"I think the easy thing would have been to ask The Cataracs for 12 G6s, but that's not what I wanted to do for my introduction to the world as an artist," she says. "I really wanted to show people that I can do a little bit of everything ... I grew up heavily influenced by a bunch of different genres" — everything from Eminem to Nirvana.

The new album was released in the UK last fall, but Dev's pregnancy delayed it stateside. She and fiancé Jimmy Gorecki welcomed daughter Emilia Lovely on Dec. 9. Balancing music and family life is "definitely a little crazy," she says, and an MTV documentary about her challenges will air next month.

"I'm excited," she says of the special. "There are definitely some details in there that the world doesn't know."

New material was added to the U.S. release, including "Naked," a gem that's currently No. 2 on Billboard. As the title implies, it's a song about feeling exposed in a relationship. "I wanted to create a pop song that was about love and vulnerability," she says. "I was very much feeling it at the moment; I wrote it when I was seven months pregnant."

Working with Iglesias was a natural move. "I thought it would be good to celebrate the fact that I'm Latin, and who better than Enrique? He's a legend in the game, so getting him on the album was definitely a plus," she says, adding that the other duets were



Dev. Courtesy photo.

pretty rad as well. "I mean Timbo and Fab, hello? They're complete OGs."

Dev returned the favor, guesting on "Break Ya Back," the first single from Timbaland's upcoming *Shock Value III*. "He's a complete musical genius, as everybody knows," she says.

Dev's upcoming Hampton Beach show helps reopen the newly renovated Wally's Pub. "It now has one of largest club stages in New England, with sound and lights that rival House of Blues in Boston," says Bernie Goulet of New England Concerts, who expects to book more shows there in the coming months.

"There is a buzz," Goulet says, "and there is definitely a demand for more live entertainment in this market."

Dev featuring Outasight, Wayne Gordon & Jeremy Greene

When: Sunday, April 29, at 6 p.m.

Where: Wally's Pub, 144 Ashworth Ave. in Hampton Beach

Tickets: \$20 at www.wallyspubnh.com (18+)

With Bill Burr, being irked works for laughs

Hot comic to perform in New Hampshire

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Bill Burr finds a lot of things irritating, like bankers. Making a deposit, he says after walking his pit bull in L.A.'s Griffith Park, "I feel like I'm going up to the guy who mugged me last week and saying, 'Here's my wallet, do it again' — it's legalized loan sharking."

Born in Canton, Mass., Burr grouses about his home team, the Red Sox, and its latest tradition.

"I really want to start a movement to remove 'Sweet Caroline' — it's a terrible song," he says. "It's embarrassing! You're sitting there with your girlfriend with her pink hat on going 'bah, bah, bum' — oh, just, kill yourself."

The beleaguered and agitated shtick paid

off well for the 43-year-old Burr. He's one of the most in-demand comics in the business, with three cable specials (the most recent filmed at New York's Lincoln Theatre earlier this year), three CDs and several late-night television appearances to his credit. He was named Comedian of the Year at last summer's Boston Comedy Festival.

In November, his performance sold out Carnegie Hall: "An absolutely indescribable experience," Burr recalls. "Few times in my life have I used the expression 'breathtaking' — but nothing was like when I got there before the show started and they had me walk out onto that stage."

Burr earned a degree in communications from Emerson College and went straight into the Boston comedy scene in 1993. Many of his brethren also found success.

"My graduating class, the ones I did open

mikes with, were Patrice O'Neal, Dane Cook, Robert Kelly, Bob Marley ... those guys all became a murderers' row of headliners," Burr says. "We all pushed each other. Particularly Dane and Patrice — we were sort of like the Three Musketeers."

O'Neal died of complications from a stroke last November, and the loss of his close friend still grieves him. *Mr. P*, a posthumous CD released in February, contains some of the confrontational comic's best work, Burr says. "He was in a class of his own. I saw him hold court at clubs around the country, and comedians who don't shut up for anybody would gather around him like he was going to read *The Night Before Christmas*."

Most of all, he remembers O'Neal as a confidante and critic who always made him step up his game.

NITE

“Hanging out with Patrice, you had to experience it,” Burr says. “When he looked at you and locked in on you, and you knew he was going to start trashing you — oh, the fear of God that he could put into you. Nothing was more original or funnier as him tearing you a new one.”

Burr hosts *The Monday Morning Podcast*, a weekly one-hour show from his home in Los Angeles. It’s a venting forum; he talks about whatever is on his mind, occasionally with a guest. Recently, a listener e-mail prompted a rant on the so-called alternative comedy scene.

“It basically distilled all of the horror out of attempting to be a comedian,” Burr said, adding, “it’s like stand-up comedy with training wheels, but you never take them off.”

He was bemused by the vociferous response his remarks received.

“There are passionate feelings about it,” Burr says, noting that during the same hour he joked about Bob Dylan and male breast cancer. “I didn’t get anything for that, but I made fun of alt comedy and everyone was, ‘I totally agree with you, you’re leading the charge!’ I said, I’m not ... leading anything, I’m trying to eat up an hour on my podcast.”

He admits to liking a few comics from the scene.

“I’m not trying to start some Biggie/Tupac thing,” he says. “But I do have to say that whole style ... is for me as a fan of comedy just getting really long in the tooth. This socially awkward character talking to someone else who’s awkward, and then they just sit there; it’s played out. I get it — people can’t have a conversation. How about we just have a funny conversation and go in that direction?”

Burr performs in Concord on Friday, April 27 — what are some of the native



Bill Burr. Courtesy photo.

New Englander’s Granite State memories?

“New Hampshire reminds me of pull-tap beer — it’s one of the last states to have it; the liquor stores along the highway, skiing, and leaving a hotel without paying — my younger days.” He laughs. “Trees, fresh air, guns — I’m a big fan of guns.”

Burr’s voice slowly rises, from conversational to the tone of quizzical aggravation that marks his act.

“And every four years, the media does that stupid story of the first primary, making everybody seem quaint and borderline retarded. It’s like *The Office*,” he says, taking a final jab at nerd comedy, “predictable and beyond absurd.”

Bill Burr

When: Friday, April 27, at 7:30 p.m.

Where: New Hampshire Technical Institute (Wellness Center Gym), 31 College Drive in Concord

Tickets: \$20 at www.nhti.edu

More than words: Jazzmouth

Billy Collins and others to read poems, play music

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

The marriage of poetry and jazz is a no-brainer, said Mark Palos.

“There’s a certain aspect of freedom to both styles,” he said. “Something I like to say about poetry is that as long as you know what the rules are, you’re allowed to break them. I feel like jazz is similar in that way.”

Palos, co-founder of the Slam Free or Die poetry open mike in Manchester, and a handful of other poets representing the Queen City, will perform at the seventh Jazzmouth Festival in Portsmouth on Friday, April 27, at the Press Room. Jazzmouth will be held in the seacoast city from Thursday, April 26, through Sunday, April 29. Billy Collins, Sheila Jordan and Ray Manzarek are among the big-name performers slated for the weekend-long festival, started by Larry Simon.

Simon, now of Brooklyn, N.Y., was working as a musician and composing for dance, theater and film companies before moving to the Portsmouth area 15 years ago and promptly starting a monthly Beat Night at the Press Room to promote poetry and music on the seacoast.

“I think spoken word and music is some-



Jazz musician David Amram will be at Jazzmouth in Portsmouth. Courtesy photo.

how, in the makeup of our brain, hardwired ... even though poetry uses languages and words that are different that novels and newspaper articles, it uses words to express something beyond words,” Simon said. “Clearly music does, too.”

Eight years ago Simon and his band,

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NITE

Groove Bacteria, were named Best Jazz Group by the Portsmouth Herald. Having earned such an accolade, he inquired about performing at the Portsmouth Jazz Festival, only to find that it was dedicated to swing and mainstream jazz. He then took it upon himself to found Jazzmouth to give local modern jazz musicians and poets an opportunity to share the stage with world-famous poets and musicians such as David Amram, Ed Sanders, Charles Simic, Andrei Codrescu, Billy Collins, Bob Dorough, Mose Allison, Sheila Jordan, Ray Manzarek, and Michael McClure, all of whom are scheduled to perform at this year's event.

"The big community involvement is a very crucial part of it and is very meaningful to me," Simon said.

Simon called Amram, 82, the cornerstone of how people think of approaching spoken word and music.

"In the 1950s when kids dressed up as beatniks for Halloween and carried bongos and wore sunglasses, it upsets him but they were copying him from the 1950s," Simon said, adding that Amram has performed with the likes of Jack Kerouac and Alan Ginsberg.

Palos said individual poets involved with Slam Free or Die have participated in Jazzmouth since 2007 but this will mark the organization's first year taking part in the

event as a group.

"I love the mix of jazz and poetry, because it's something that has been going on for a long time that you don't hear about a lot anymore," he said. "It's nice to see it sort of being brought to light in a more public way and to sort of get a bunch of jazz musicians and bunch of poets that may not normally meet, together in one place to perform together."

Palos said he tailors his work to the events he performs at and sometimes writes poems with a musical accompaniment in mind but has not yet nailed down a set list for Jazzmouth.

"If I come through the door with a particular set of poems in mind to do and it's clear that the audience just is not digging that, I may change it up and do something totally different," he said.

For a full schedule of events, visit jazzmouth.org.

Jazzmouth Extravaganza

David Amram, Eric Mingus, XJ Kennedy, Claire Breger-Belsky, Ryan McLellan, Betsy Sholl, Chris Elliott, Meg Kearney and the Larry Simon Ensemble

When: Saturday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m.

Where: The Music Hall Loft, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth

Tickets: \$17 at themusichall.org

Nightlife Listings

Music, comedy & parties

• **JAZZMOUTH** poetry and jazz festival will be held in Portsmouth, Thurs., April 26, through Sun., April 28. Visit jazzmouth.org for a full schedule.

• **CORMAC MCCARTHY** will perform at the Nashua Senior Activity Center, 70 Temple St., Nashua on Fri., April 27, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$25 at nashuaseniorcenter.org/cormactickets or by calling 816-2642.

• **GREG BROWN** will perform at the Peterborough Players Theater, 55 Stearns Farm Road, on Friday, April 27, at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$27 at ticketstage.com, \$30 at the door.

• **DUKE ELLINGTON MUSIC** will be performed by the Monadnock Chorus at Peterborough Town Hall on Sat., April 28, at 7:30 p.m., and Sun., April 29, at 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$18 (\$10 for students) at monadnock-chorus.org and at Toadstool Bookshop, Steele's or Rousseau's Music in Peterborough. Tickets cost \$20 at the door.

• **QC BALLROOM ANNIVERSARY DANCE PARTY** will be held at the Rockingham Ballroom, 22 Ash Swamp Road, Newmarket on Sun., April 29, from 1 to 5 p.m. Singles and couples with all dance abilities are welcome. The party will also feature a showcase by the QCB Performing Team. Tickets cost \$12 before April 1, \$16 before April 28, and \$20 at the door. Call 622-1500.

• **DRUM MASTER CLASS** will be run by Keith Carlock at the Drum Center of Portsmouth, 800 Islington St., Portsmouth, on Wednesday, May 2, at 7 p.m. (a meet and greet with Carlock will begin at 6 p.m.). Tickets cost \$20 at the Drum Center. Call 319-8109.

• **PAULA COLE** will perform at the Stockbridge Theatre at Pinker-

ton Academy, 5 Academy Drive, Derry, on Fri., May 4, at 7 p.m. (a silent auction will start at 6 p.m.). Tickets cost \$30 and \$35 (\$20 for students and seniors) at stockbridgetheatre.com or by calling 437-5210. All proceeds will benefit the Center for Life Management Foundation.

• **CAROL AUGUST** will perform a benefit concert at McCue's on Emerald Street in Keene on Fri., May 4, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 at 356-6855 or by contacting info@joysnetwork.org, or \$20 at the door. Proceeds will be donated to AIDS Services for the Monadnock Region and Joy's Network.

• **KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY** will be held by the Souhegan Valley Rotary at the Nashua Country Club, 25 Fairway St., Nashua, on Sat., May 5, from 4 to 9 p.m. The event will feature mint juleps, passed hors d'oeuvres, big-screen race footage, a ragtime band and prizes. Tickets cost \$20 at derbyparty2012.com. Proceeds will benefit Pure Water for the World.

• **JULIA BARRY** will perform at Antioch University, 40 Avon St., Keene, on Monday, May 7, at 7 p.m. There will be a suggested donation of \$5 at the door.

• **BENEFIT CONCERT** for the Dreams Heard Foundation, which supports New England families with deaf/hearing impaired children, will be held at Boston Billiard Club, 55 Northeastern Blvd., Nashua, on Friday, May 11, at 8 p.m. The Ron Noyes Band and Paranoid Social Club will perform. Tickets cost \$15 in advance (\$20 day of show) at the Boston Billiard Club.

• **DANIEL JOHNSTON** will perform a benefit concert for seacoast musician Brett Hartenback at the Rochester Opera House on Sat., May 12, at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$25 at rochesteroperahouse.com or by

calling 335-1992.

• **BENEFIT BLUES SUMMIT** featuring Al Kooper, Jimmy Vivino, James Montgomery Band, Christine Ohlman, Deric Dyer and Mighty Sam McClain will be held at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, on Fri., June 1, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$37.50 at palacetheatre.org or by calling 668-5588. Proceeds will benefit Child and Family Services of New Hampshire. Visit cfsnh.org for information on VIP tickets.

Bowling

• **BOUTWELL'S BOWLING CENTER** 152 N. State St., Concord, 224-0941

• **BOWL IT CENTER** 244 Elm St., Milford, 554-1633, funbowling.com

• **LAKESIDE LANES** 2171 Candia Road, Manchester, 627-7722, lakesidelanes.com

• **LEDA LIGHTHOUSE** 340 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-4884, ledalanes.com

• **KING BOWLING LANES** 751 Mast Road, Manchester, 623-9215, kingslanes.com

• **MERRIMACK TEN PIN CENTER** 698 DW Hwy., Merrimack, 429-0989, 8:30 a.m. to midnight.

• **SPARE TIME** 216 Maple St., Manchester, 625-9656, stadium-tenpin.net

• **TONY'S LANES** 244 Elm St., Milford, 673-6673.

Entertainment

• **SUNDAY NIGHT BALLROOM** dance parties are held weekly at Queen City Ballroom Dance Studio, 21 Dow St., Manchester, from 6 to 9 p.m. Tickets cost \$9 (admission is free for first timers). Singles and couples are welcome. Call 622-1500 or visit queencityballroomnh.com.

Going faster than a roller coaster — RockandRollCrosswords.com by Todd Santos

Across

- 1. Chicago ‘Hard ___ To Break’
- 6. Japanese metal band that will audibly exhale?
- 10. Von Bondies ‘___ Of Communication’
- 14. Jim Croce ‘___ Name’ (1,3,1)
- 15. U2 ‘One ___ Hill’
- 16. ___ Have To Do Is Dream (3,1)

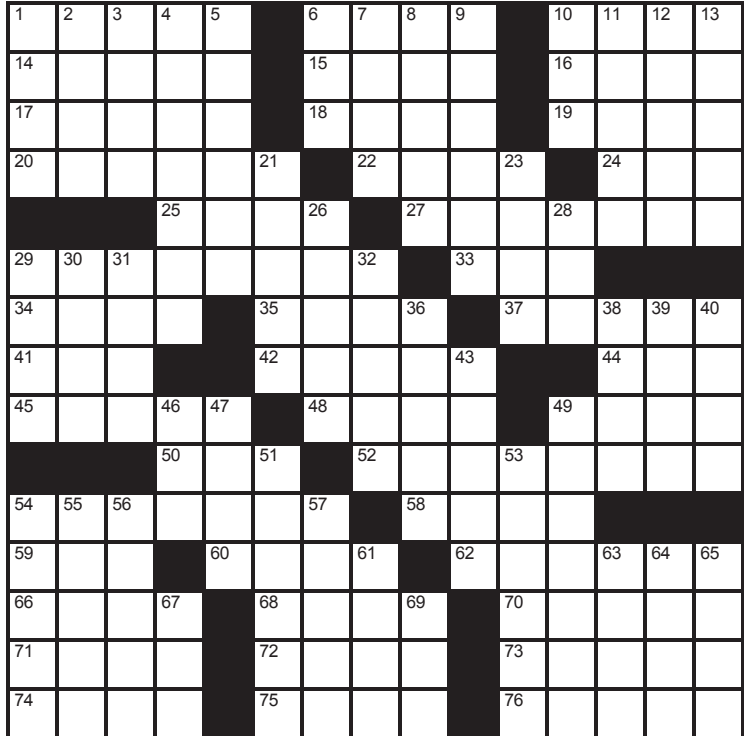
- 17. Brian of Roxy Music
- 18. Drowning Pool song we feel sorry for?
- 19. Country’s ‘By The Time I Get To Phoenix’ Campbell
- 20. Worthy principles Christian rockers have
- 22. Queasy feeling Pink got on debut album?
- 24. Kind of man John Lennon was,

- besides being a ‘Walrus’
- 25. Kiss ‘Into The ___’
- 27. Open G and standard
- 29. ‘Don’t Worry Be Happy’ Bobby
- 33. Robert Plant ‘Now And ___’
- 34. Jimmy Kimmel/jazz bassman Jimmy
- 35. Robert John Godfrey band
- 37. Korn ‘___ Up Inside’
- 41. Michael Schenker post-Scorpions band
- 42. ‘Buffalo Stance’ Cherry
- 44. Tito Puente ‘___ Como Va’
- 45. Buddy Holly “Yes I love you, ___ Sue”
- 48. ‘For My Broken Heart’ McEntire
- 49. Poison frontman Michaels
- 50. Jazz musician Olu Dara’s rapper son
- 52. Chicago ‘Baby, What A Big ___’
- 54. The Lonely Island ‘Jack ___’
- 58. Iconic Fender model (abbr)
- 59. ‘Spill The Wine’ band

- 60. The Box Tops ‘___ Rainbow’
- 62. ‘___ Floss For The Globe’ Urban Dance Squad
- 66. ‘Night Of The Stormrider’ ___ Earth
- 68. Said at end of POD show, perhaps
- 70. ‘Rolling In The Deep’ singer
- 71. German band that had ‘99 Luftballons’
- 72. Alice Cooper ‘For Veronica’s ___’
- 73. The Academy Is...’07 album
- 74. ‘White Ladder’ David
- 75. Inquisitive 2010 Ringo Starr album? (1,3)
- 76. The ___ The Innocence (3,2)

- ‘Sit On My ___’
- 26. Widespread Panic song about a place to eat?
- 28. Guns ‘N Roses ‘One ___ Mil- lion’ (2,1)
- 29. Stones ‘Start ___’ (2,2)
- 30. Tim Buckley song about a place for lunch?
- 31. Amphibian that sings ‘Rainbow Connection’
- 32. Hatesphere ‘To The ___’
- 36. ‘The “Chirping” Crickets’ was Buddy Holly’s this
- 38. ‘Midwinter Graces’ Amos
- 39. 80s band Naked ___
- 40. Don’t want to miss one, in trib- ute band
- 43. Group of women for one star
- 46. ‘Appetite For Destruction’ band (abbr)
- 47. Used by wardrobe, perhaps
- 49. Producer O’Brien
- 51. Buddy Holly ‘It’s ___’ (2,4)
- 53. Autograph ‘Sign In ___’
- 54. ‘Big Bad Voodoo Daddy’ genre
- 55. Amps ‘95 album
- 56. Kind of big venue
- 57. Buddy Holly ‘My Two Timin’ ___’
- 61. ‘People Got A Lotta Nerve’ Case
- 63. James Gang ‘___ My Garden’
- 64. Middle part
- 65. 70s teen idol Garrett
- 67. “It was a beautiful ___” U2
- 69. Grateful Dead ‘Without A ___’

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Written By: Todd Santos



4/19



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Brook St. American Legion Sweeney Post 251 Maple St., 623-9145 Black Brimmer 1087 Elm St., 669-5523 Bo’s Riverside 500 Commercial St., 625-4444 Boytont’s Taproom 155 Dow St., 623-7778 Breezeway Pub 14 Pearl St., 621-9111	City Sports Grille 216 Maple St., 625-9656 Club 313 93 S. Maple St., 628-6813 Delux 36 Lowell St., 644-1180 Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Rd, 623-2880 Don Quijote 333 Valley St., 792-1110 Drynk 20 Old Granite St., 836-5251 Element Lounge 1055 Elm St., 627-2922 Farm Bar & Grille 1181 Elm St., 641-3276 Fratello’s 155 Dow Street, 624-2022 Gaucht’s Churrascaria 62 Lowell St., 669-9460 Grand Nightclub & Lounge , 61 Canal St., 518.5547 Hanover St. Chophouse 149 Hanover St., 644-2467 Ignite Bar & Grille 100 Hanover St., 494-6225 Jam Factory 1211 Elm St., 203-1458 Jillian’s Billiard Club 50 Philippe Cote Drive, 626-7636 Jokers 1279 S. Willow St., 935-9947 Lafayette Club 387 Canal St., 623-9323 Lazy Nick’s Coffee House 362 Huse Road, 232-7187 Luigi’s Pizza Bar & Grille 712 Valley St., 622-1021 Mad Bob’s Saloon 342 Lincoln St., 669-3049 McGarvey’s 1097 Elm St., 627-2721 Milly’s Tavern 500 Commercial St., 625-4444 Murphy’s Taproom 494 Elm St., 644-3535 My Friend’s Bar and Grill 507 Maple St., 627-3444 NH Institute of Art 148 Concord St. Olympic Lounge 506 Valley St., 644-5559 Piccola’s Upstairs Lounge 815 Elm St. Penuche’s Grill 96 Hanover St., 626-9830 Raxx Lounge 1195 Elm St. Rocko’s Bar & Grill 253 Wilson St., 626-5866 Sam Adams Bar & Grill Northeast Delta Dental Stadium, 1 Line Drive., 641-2005 The Shaskeen 909 Elm St., 625-0246 Starbucks 1111 S. Willow St., 641-4839 Strange Brew Tavern 88 Market St., 666-4292	Theos 102 Elm St., 669-4678 Unwine’d 865 Second St., 625-9463 The Wild Rover 21 Kosciuszko St., 669-7722 Workmen’s Club 183 Douglas St. XO on Elm 827 Elm St., 206-5721 The Yard 1211 S. Mammoth Road, 623-3545 Meredith Camp 300 DW Highway, 279-3003 Giuseppe’s Ristorante 312 DW Highway, 279-3313 Merrimack The Homestead 641 DW Highway, 429-2022 Jade Dragon 515 DW Highway, 424-2280 Milford American Legion 15 Cottage St., 673-9804 Chapanga’s 168 Elm St., 249-5214 Clark’s Tavern 40 Nashua St., 769-3119 J’s Tavern 63 Union Sq., 249-9222 The Pasta Loft 241 Union Sq., 672-2270 Madison’s Irish Pub 586 Nashua St. Tiebreakers at Hampshire Hills 50 Emerson Road, 673-7123 Nashua The Amber Room 53 High St., 881-9060 Backstage Bar and Grill 56 Canal St., 598-8256 Boston Billiard Club 55 Northeastern Blvd., 595-2121 Country Tavern 452 Amherst St., 889-5871 Fat Daddy’s Cafe 650 Amherst St. Fody’s Tavern 9 Clinton St., 577-9015 Haluwa Lounge Nashua Mall, 883-6662 Junkyard 522 Amherst St., 882-6026 Killarney’s Irish Pub Holiday Inn, 888-1551 Lafayette Club 34 High St, 889-9860 Martha’s Exchange 185 Main St., 883-8781 Michael Timothy’s 212 Main St., 595-9334 Nashua Garden 121 Main St., 886-7363 Old Amsterdam Bar 8 Temple St., 204-5501	The Peddler’s Daughter 48 Main St., 880-8686 Penuche’s Ale House 4 Canal St., 595-9831 Pine Street Eatery 136 Pine St., 886-3501 The Polish American Club 15 School St., 889-9819 Sausage King 53 Main St., 204-5110 Simple Gifts Coffee House 58 Lowell St. 603 Lounge 14 W. Hollis St., 821-5260 Slade’s Food & Spirits 4 W. Hollis St., 886-1334 Stella Blu 70 E. Pearl St., 578-5557 Villa Banca 194 Main St., 598-0500 New Boston Gravity Tavern 35 Mont Vernon Rd, 487-2011 Newmarket Lamprey River Tavern 110 Main St., 659-3696 KJ’s Sports Bar N. Main St., 659-2329 Stone Church 5 Granite St., 650-7700 Newton Hen House Sports Bar & Grill 85 S. Main St., 382-1705 Pelham Shooters 116 Bridge St., 635-3577 Peterborough Harlow’s Pub 3 School St., 924-6365 Peterborough Players Theater Hadley Road Plaistow Corner Pocket 181 Plaistow Rd., 382-3130 Dugout Grille 93 Main St., 819-4947 The Sad Café 148 Plaistow Rd,382-8893 Portsmouth American Legion Post 6 96 Islington St. Blue Mermaid Island Grill hill at Hanover and High streets, 427-2583 Daniel Street Tavern 111 Daniel St. Dolphin Striker 15 Bow St., 431-5222 Fat Belly’s 2 Bow St. 610-4337 Gas Light Co. 64 Market St., 431-9122 The Hilton Garden Inn 100 High St., 431-1499	Jitto’s Supersteak 3131 Lafayette Rd, 436-9755 The Music Hall 104 Congress St., 433-3100 Paddy’s American Grill 27 International Drive, 430-9450 Portsmouth Pearl 45 Pearl St., 431-0148 Press Room 77 Daniel St.,431-5186 The Red Door 107 State St., 373-6827 Red Hook Brewery 35 Corporate Dr., 430-8600 Ri Ra Irish Pub 22 Market Square, 319-1680 Rudi’s 20 High St., 430-7834 Rusty Hammer 49 Pleasant St., 436-9289 The Wet Bar 172 Hanover St. Raymond Famous Legends Bar & Grill at Strikers East 4 Essex Drive Freetown Yankee Market 58 Route 27, 895-3418 Salem Black Water Grill 43 Pelham Road, 328-9013 Jocelyn’s Lounge 355 S. Broadway, 870-0045 Murray’s Tavern 326 S. Broadway, 894-9100 Sayde’s Restaurant 136 Cluff Crossing Rd, 890-1032 The Varsity Club 67 Main St., 898-4344 Seabrook American Legion Post 70 169 Walton Road Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Rd, 474-6001 Honey Pot Bar & Lounge 920 Lafayette Rd, 760-2013 Master McGrath’s Route 107, 474-6540 Prime Time Sports Grill 620 Lafayette Road, 760-7230 Sunapee One Mile West Tavern 6 Brook Road, 863-7500 Sunapee Coffee House Methodist Church, Route 11
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Thursday, April 26 Ashland Common Man: open mike w/ Jim McHugh Candia Henderson’s Pickin’ Parlor: acoustic open mike Concord Hermanos: Craig Fahey Tandy’s: DJ Dover Barley Pub: bluegrass jam w/ Steve Roy Brick House: Ben Cook Kelley’s Row: DJ Evaredy RJ’s: DJ J-Smooth Station House: open mike	w/ Dave Nappy Band Epping Holy Grail: Dan Walker Gilford Patrick’s: Paul Warnick Hampstead Pasta Loft: Beloved Few Route 111 Village Square: DJ Hampton Wally’s: Hed Pe and Mushroom Head Laconia Pitman’s Freight Room: Kenny Werner	Londonderry Whippersnappers: John Paul & Train Wreck Manchester Black Brimmer: DJ Squared Club 313: DJ Element: DJ Jason Joker’s: Downtown Dave and the Deep Pockets L&M Grand: DJ Coolz Raxx: DJ Mike Shaskeen: Girls, Guns and Glory Strange Brew: Mr. Nick TJ’s: DJ K Swiss Wild Rover: blues jam w/ Wan-Tu Blues Band	Meredith Giuseppe’s: Matt Langley Merrimack The Homestead: Tony Santesse Milford Chapanga’s: open mike w/ Driven Clark’s: Mike Ordway Pasta Loft: Rich Kumpu Nashua Amber Room: DJ Amsterdam: DJ Fody’s: Josh Logan Band Studio 99: piano karaoke Newmarket Stone Church: DJ	Newton Hen House Sports Bar & Grill: acoustic open mike w/ John Porazinski Peterborough Harlow’s Pub: bluegrass jam w/ JT Portsmouth Press Room: Dave Tal-mage Red Door: Local Heroes w/ Robert Blake Rudi’s: Dimitri Trio Rochester Old Oak Tavern: open mike w/ Tony McClain	Salem Murray’s: blues jam w/ Steve Devine Seabrook Chop Shop: Dangerous Men Friday, April 27 Amherst Souhegan Christian Church: open mike w/ Music at the Ledge Belmont The Lodge: Tom Dixon Band Concord Makris: Groove Cats Tandy’s: DJ	Deerfield Lazy Lion: Dwight Phetteplace Dover Brick House: Lit on the Flash, Mother Leopard, When Particles Collide, Satellite Club Hotel RJ’s: DJ Big Pez Epping Holy Grail: Karma Exeter Shooter’s: open mike Gilford Patrick’s: Jim Hollis	Hampstead Pasta Loft: Chris Hawk & Matt Route 111 Village Square: Southern Breeze Hampton Wally’s: Gwar Kingston 1686 House Tavern: Mike Belkas Londonderry Coach Stop: Karen Grenier Whippersnappers: Last Kid Picked Manchester Black Brimmer: Mugsy
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On the scene



Band members of the world, unite and take over

Do you have an upcoming show? Make sure that even if the venue doesn't let us know, it gets listed in the Music This Week by sending us updates of your upcoming gigs. Send locations, dates and times for your upcoming shows to music@hippopress.com. Send information by noon on Monday to get listed for the coming week. Or send us links to your regularly updated website or MySpace page.

... or you, with a club...

Does your bar/restaurant/coffeeshop frequently host musical performances? Send the information to music@hippopress.com along with your address and phone number so we can get you into the Music This Week. And if *you* regularly update your website or MySpace page, you can send us those links as well. Get the information in by noon on Monday to make the coming Thursday's paper.

... and if you are a music fan...

If you're out on the scene and see a show at a location not regularly listed in the Music This Week, let us know at music@hippopress.com. Our goal is to give you the most complete live music listings in the region each and every week.

City Sports Grille:

Head Shop

Club 313: DJ Bob

The Derryfield: Phoenix

The Farm: Take 4

Fratello's: Charlie Christos

Jam Factory: Safer by the Shore, Sean Carr and the Funk Syndrome, Threadweaver

L&M Grand: Friday After Five

Mad Bob's: My Sister Will

Murphy's: Business Time

Raxx: DJ Mike

Shaskeen: Van Gordon Martin

Strange Brew: Rhythm Method

TJ's: DJ Scuba

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Lou Porrazzo, DJ

Merrimack

The Homestead: Marc Apostolides

Milford

Chapanga's: Tripwire

Clark's: DJ Randy Maillet

Pasta Loft: Groove Authority

Nashua

Amber Room: DJ Lou, DJ Danjah

Amsterdam: DJ

Fody's: Grumbo Diablo

Haluwa: Rock City

Martha's Exchange: DJ Spivak

Peddlers: Minds Eye

Stella Blu: Michael Troy

Newmarket

Stone Church: Buz-zuniverse

Newton

Hen House: DJ

Plaistow

The Dugout: DJ Boo

Sad Café: Less of a Felony, Messages of Ennui, In Spite of Light, Thunderbear, 10 O'clock Drive

In the spotlight



Cormac McCarthy

Folk singer-songwriter Cormac McCarthy will take the mike at the Nashua Senior Activity Center, 70 Temple St., Nashua, on Friday, April 27, at 7:30 p.m. McCarthy, of South Berwick, Maine, has released three CDs filled with the "poetry of real life," according to his bio, and has been nominated for Outstanding Folk/Acoustic Act and Outstanding Folk/Acoustic Album by the Boston Music Awards. Tickets cost \$25 at nashuaseniorcenter.org/cormactickets or by calling 816-2642.

Portsmouth

Blue Mermaid: Kristen Marlo

Gas Light: Superfrog, Chris Lester, DJ Koko P

The Page: DJ

Press Room: Cynthia Chatis, Joanne Connolly, Agnes Charlesworth, Swing the Cat

Red Door: Patrick Barry

Rudi's: Rob Gerry Trio

Salem

Jocelyn's: DJ

Murray's: Fixed Income

Seabrook

Chop Shop: Xrossed

Honey Pot: DJ

Saturday, April 28

Allenstown

Ground Zero: Dave Emeney, Bryan Young, Amanda McCarthy, Andrew Locke and Alecia Colassi

Belmont

The Lodge: Raising Scarlet

Concord

Hermanos: Matt Poirier

Tandy's: DJ

Dover

RJ's: DJ

Epping

Holy Grail: Hopeless Duo

Epsom

Circle 9 Ranch: Dan Morgan Band

Exeter

Shooters: Fling

Gilford

Patrick's: Lil' Penny

Hampstead

Pasta Loft: Jim Gray

Route 111 Village Square: Hit Squad

Hampton

Wally's: Candlebox

Hooksett

Asian Breeze: George Belli & the Retroactivists

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Julie Doherty

Whippersnappers: Brian Maes Band

Manchester

Black Brimmer: Never in Vegas

City Sports Grille: Tripwire

Club 313: DJ Bob

The Derryfield: Chad LaMarsh Band

The Farm: Innuendo

Fratello's: Gary Lopez

Jam Factory: open jam

Mad Bob's: My Sister Will, Jeff Mrozek

Milly's: My Sister Will, Head Shop, Among the

Living, Satellite Club

Hotel, Visions:Visions

Murphy's: Best Not Broken

Raxx: DJ Mike

Rocko's: The World We Knew, Rose Funeral, Dysentery, As They Looked To The Sky, Voices Of Anguish, Ascension, Twisted Legacy, Surrender The Silence

Shaskeen: Irish sessions w/ Roger Burridge, Age Against the Machine

Strange Brew: Ryan Hartt

TJ's: DJ Scuba

Wild Rover: Tore Down House

The Yard: Bobby Carlson

Living, Satellite Club

Hotel, Visions:Visions

Murphy's: Best Not Broken

Raxx: DJ Mike

Rocko's: The World We Knew, Rose Funeral, Dysentery, As They Looked To The Sky, Voices Of Anguish, Ascension, Twisted Legacy, Surrender The Silence

Shaskeen: Irish sessions w/ Roger Burridge, Age Against the Machine

Strange Brew: Ryan Hartt

TJ's: DJ Scuba

Wild Rover: Tore Down House

The Yard: Bobby Carlson

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Joel Cage, Mugshot

Merrimack

The Homestead: Marc Apostolides

Milford

Clark's: Joe Birch

Pasta Loft: Statewide Duo

Nashua

Amber Room: DJ

Backstage Bar & Grill: DJ

Fody's: Mad Express

Haluwa: Rock City

Martha's Exchange: DJ

Peddlers: Boston & Bosco

StellaBlu: JoeMcDonald

DAILY SPECIALS

EVERY
MONDAY

SERVICE INDUSTRY NIGHT

FREE ADMISSION BEFORE 10PM FOR ALL SERVICE INDUSTRY EMPLOYEES!
DRINK SPECIALS.

EVERY
TUESDAY

2 FOR TUESDAY

\$2 TABLE DANCES \$2 STEAKS

UNTIL 11:00 PM 2-4-1 VIP ROOMS

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EVERY
THURSDAY

THIRSTY THURSDAY

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EVERY
FRIDAY

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NITE

Dover

Brick House: acoustic open mike w/ Anthony Vito Fiandaca,
RJ's: DJ

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Scot Gibbs and the Usual Suspects

Hampstead

Pasta Loft: acoustic open mike w/ Mike Belkas

Londonderry

Whippersnappers: video DJ

Manchester

Fratello's: Doug Mitchell
Milly's: Manchuka
Murphy's: open mike w/Josh Logan, Nate Comp and Paul Costley
Raxx: DJ Mike
Strange Brew: Strange Brew All Stars
TJ's: DJ Aubut

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Lou Porrazzo

Merrimack

The Homestead: Gary

Lopez

Milford

J's Tavern: G Man from Mama Kicks

Nashua

Fody's: DJ Mark Allen
Studio 99: Trio Balkan Strings

Newmarket

Stone Church: bluegrass jam w/ Dave Gerard

Portsmouth

Press Room: jazz jam w/ Larry Garland, open mike w/ Bob Halperin

Seabrook

Honey Pot: open mike

Wednesday, May 2

Antrim

Redneck's: open mike w/ the Boogiemens

Auburn

Holiday's: DJ Captain Chris

Boscawen

Alan's: open mike

Concord

Hermanos: Dave

Gerard

Tandy's: DJ

Dover

Brick House: J. Wail
Fury's: open mike w/ Paul Chase
Three Chimneys Inn: open mike

Hampton

La Bec Rouge: DJ Kelly Elliott
Wally's Pub: DJ

Kingston

The Carriage Towne Bar & Grille: Mike Belkas

Manchester

Black Brimmer: DJ
Fratello's: David Rousseau
Strange Brew: Frank Moray
TJ's: DJ Jonny Friday

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Don Bergeron

Merrimack

The Homestead: Sev

Milford

Clark's: open mike w/

Gary Lopez

J's Tavern: Lisa from Mama Kicks

Pasta Loft: open mike

Nashua

603 Lounge: open mike w/ Kevin Horan
Off the Wall Lounge: open mike
Peddlers Daughter: Revels Glen
Sausage King: open mike w/ John Borlaug
Studio 99: jazz jam

Peterborough

Harlow's Pub: open mike

Portsmouth

Blue Mermaid: open mike w/ Tom Brown and Duke Mandell
Press Room: John Waterman
Red Door: Red on Red w/ Evaredy
Rudi's: Dimitri

Salem

Murray's: acoustic open mike

Seabrook

Chop Shop: Reverend JJ and the Casual Sinners

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Friday, April 27

Concord

Concord Community College: Bill Burr

Saturday, April 28

Concord

Cap Center: Lewis Black

Manchester

Headliners: Mark Scalia

Sunday, April 29

Concord

Cap Center: Lewis Black

Tupelo

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Thursday, April 26

8:00 p.m.
\$30
RS-Theater

WISHBONE ASH



Friday, April 27

8:00 p.m.
\$30
RS-Theater

THE STOMPERS



Saturday, April 28

8:00 p.m. • \$30 • GA

JAMES McMURTRY



Sunday, April 29

7:00 p.m.
\$25
RS-Theater

JOHN SEBASTIAN

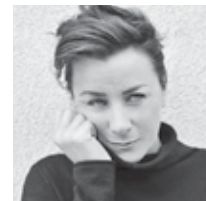


Friday, May 4

8:00 p.m.
\$45
RS-Theater

MELISSA FERRICK

Susan Cattaneo Opens



Saturday, May 5

8:00 p.m.
\$25
GA

CARAVAN OF THIEVES



Sunday, May 6

7:00 p.m. • \$15 • GA

NIGHT OF COMEDY

with Brad Mastrangelo, Carolyn Plummer & Will Noonan



Friday, May 11

8:00 p.m. • \$18 • RS-Tables

CHAD PERRONE



Saturday, May 12

8:00 p.m.
\$17
GA

OTTMAR LIEBERT & LUNA NEGRA



Sunday, May 13

7:00 p.m.
\$45/\$50
RS-Theater

PAUL CAPORINO OF M.O.T.O.



Wed., May 16

8:00 p.m.
\$15
GA

GLENGARRY BOYS



Friday, May 18

8:00 p.m. • \$25 • GA

ROOMFUL OF BLUES



Saturday, May 19

8:00 p.m. • \$25 • RS-Theater

ATLANTA RHYTHM SECTION



Sunday, May 20

7:00 p.m. • \$45/\$50 • RS-Theater

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SAT. 4/28 Best Not Broken

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TUESDAYS - ALL 24 DRAFTS: \$2, ALL DAY LONG

WEDNESDAYS - LADIES NIGHTS: LADIES GET HALF PRICE LIQUOR DRINKS AFTER 6PM

THURSDAYS - \$3 DRAFTS ALL DAY LONG

FRIDAY - \$2 DRAFTS UNTIL 9PM

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- Across**

1 Plenty of

6 Coffeehouse drink

10 Post your thoughts online

14 Hit the town

15 “Get ____”

16 Hawaiian island where much of “Lost” was filmed

17 Room under a roof

18 WWI spy ____ Hari
- 19 Mufasa, for one

20 Big shot overseeing metamorphoses?

23 Brother of Michael and Jermaine

24 Buenos Aires’ loc.

25 Dunking Ming

27 Big shot in the flexible straw industry?

34 ____ Domani wine

36 Big berry

37 “La Traviata” composer

38 Fend (off)
- locksmiths?

49 Nincompoop

50 Genetic messenger material

51 Five, in France

53 Big shot in the salad factory?

59 Guilty or not guilty

61 Furniture giant

62 Spotted laugher

63 Brazen

64 D.C. team

65 Fencing swords

66 Hot month

67 Watches closely

68 Income, in Paris
- 25 Kind of question with a 50/50 answer

26 Go on the fritz

28 Cupcake topper

29 Prop for Bob Ross

30 Girl, in Grenoble

31 Everything’s always about her

32 Dutch cheeses

33 Jasmine and basmati

35 Heat ‘n’ eat

39 Patsy’s “Absolutely Fabulous” friend

44 Shoe string

47 Nobel Prize-winning novelist ____ Gordimer

48 Be indecisive

52 Semiconductor variety

53 “____ no, we won’t go”

54 Just fine

55 Party

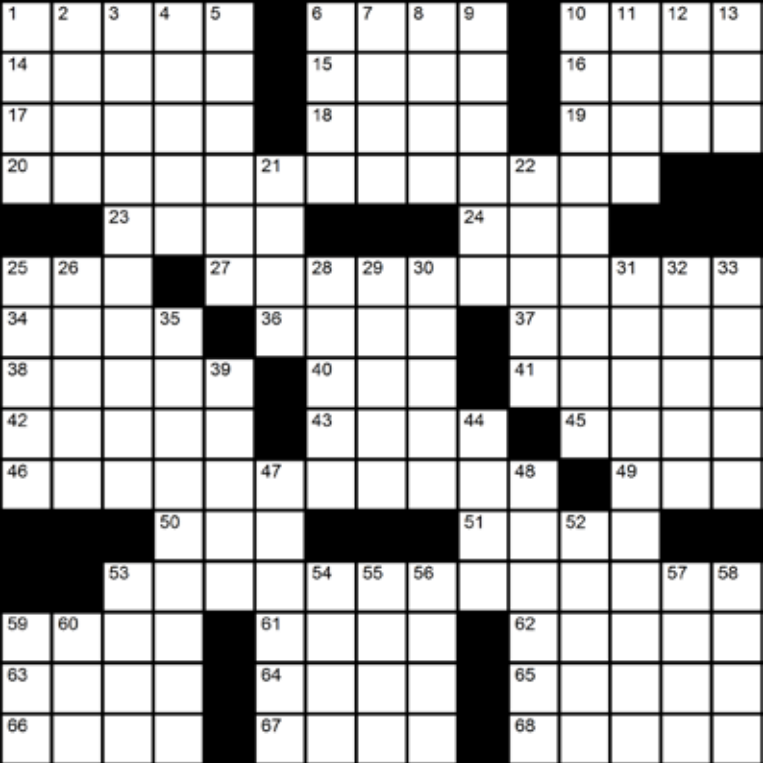
56 Scottish miss

57 Technology website now owned by CBS Interactive

58 Effortlessness

59 Sandwich with the crusts cut off

60 Reed or Rawls



40 Cuba or Curacao: abbr.

41 Bartender on “The Love Boat”

42 Stuck in the microwave

43 Title role for Jodie Foster

45 Plus-size model born Melissa Aronson

46 Big shot in charge of

Down

- 1 “Jumpin’ Jack Flash, it’s ____.”
- 2 Women’s rights activist Lucretia
- 3 Arby’s side item
- 4 He wears green and eats mushrooms
- 5 “I could go on and on”
- 6 Actress Gertz of “Twister”
- 7 Cracked open a smidge

4/19



- 8 Take to the polls
- 9 Genesis album that looks like a rhyme scheme
- 10 Meat sauce
- 11 Grizzly hideaway
- 12 “I’m onto your scheme!”
- 13 “Bop ____” (Parliament song)
- 21 Qatar’s capital
- 22 Roman fountain

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(editor@jonesincrosswords.com)

All quotes are from *Unseen Academicals*, by Terry Pratchett, born April 28, 1948.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) *If the ... second request is not granted, the second law ensures that the need for any gratitude for the first favor is nullified, and in accordance with the third law the favor giver has not done any favors at all, and the favor field collapses.* Your favor field is in danger of collapsing.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) *Glenda and Juliet sat side by side, rocking gently to the sway, lost in their thoughts. At least Glenda was; Juliet could get lost in half a thought, if that.* Be careful not to get lost in your thoughts.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) *It is a well known-fact in any organization that, if you want a job done, you should give it to someone who is already very busy. It has been the cause of a number of homicides, and in one case the death of a senior director from having his head shut repeatedly in quite a small filing cabinet.* Stay away from filing cabinets.

Leo (July 23 – Aug 22) *The truth of the matter was that Juliet would look good in a sack. Somehow, everything she wore fitted perfectly. Glenda, on the other hand, never found anything good in her size and indeed seldom found anything in her*

size. In theory, something should fit, but all she ever found was facts, which are so unbecoming. Do the best you can, but don’t force the issue.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) *Where a battering ram cannot work, really good shortcrust pastry can often break through.* Pie is strongly recommended.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) *‘And you are telling me I’m wrong. Are you?’ ‘I would rather you thought of me as suggesting a way in which you could be even more right.’* You could be even more right.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21) *Rid- cully worked on the basis that anything you couldn’t remember wasn’t important and had developed the floor-heap method of document storage to a fine art.* The floor-heap method threatens to undermine an important project.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21) *Contrary to popular belief and hope, people don’t usually come running when they hear a scream. That’s not how humans work. Humans look at other humans and say, ‘Did you hear a scream?’ because the first scream might just have been you screaming inside your head, or a horse backfiring.* You need to make your needs clear.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan 19) *She headed toward the nearest lesser librarian, who failed to look the*

other way in time, and demanded: ‘I need to see a dictionary of embarrassing words beginning with F!’ When in doubt, look it up.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) *Ah, yes, the banquet, she thought, as the rain started to soak into her coat. The banquet. She would have to see about the banquet. Sometimes if you wanted to go to the ball you had to be your own fairy godmother. Take*

charge of your own affairs. Help is available. You just have to know how to use it.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) *It wasn’t that she didn’t know how to smile; she was quite capable of smiling, if you gave her enough warning, but she positively hated having to smile at people who actually merited, instead, a flick around the earhole with a napkin. Watch*

your ears.

Aries (March 21 – April 19)

This place was so expensive they didn’t tell you the price of anything.

You could always be sure things were going to be expensive when they didn’t tell you the price. No point in looking through it, it’d suck your wages out through your eyeballs. Free drinks? Oh, yes. Yeah, there’s probably a catch.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

4								9
	5			3			2	
	1		4		2		6	
8		1				5		3
7		9				4		2
	2		8		3		9	
	9			5			4	
3								8

Difficulty Level ★★★

4/26

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**SU
DO
KU**

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Last week's puzzle answers are below

4/19

4	7	8	1	6	2	5	3	9
5	6	1	4	9	3	2	7	8
2	3	9	7	5	8	6	4	1
8	5	4	3	2	6	9	1	7
6	1	7	8	4	9	3	2	5
3	9	2	5	1	7	8	6	4
7	8	5	2	3	1	4	9	6
1	2	6	9	8	4	7	5	3
9	4	3	6	7	5	1	8	2

Difficulty Level ★★★

4/19

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Financial Advantage

In April, a research ship will begin surveying the Atlantic Ocean floor off of Nova Scotia as the first step to building, by 2013, a \$300 million private fiber-optic line connecting New York and London financial markets so as to speed up current transmission times — by about five milliseconds. Those five milliseconds, though (according to an April report in Bloomberg Business Week), will enable the small group of firms that are underwriting the project (and who will have exclusive use of it) to earn millions of dollars per transaction by having their trade sales arrive five milliseconds before their competitors' sales would have arrived.

Cultural Diversity

• Brazil's Safety Net for the Poor: Dr. Ivo Pitanguy, the most celebrated plastic surgeon in the country, apparently earned enough money from well-off clients that he can now "give back," by funding and inspiring more than 200 clinics to provide low-income women with enhancement procedures (face lifts, tummy tucks, butt lifts) at a reduced, and sometimes no, charge. A local anthropology professor told ABC News, for a March dispatch, that "(i)n Brazil, plastic surgery is now seen as something of the norm" (or, as the reporter put it, "(B)eaauty is (considered) a right, and the poor deserve to be ravishing, too").

• In a March interview on Bolivian television, Judge Gualberto Cusi, who was recently elected to Bolivia's Constitutional Tribunal from the indigenous Aymara community, acknowledged that occasionally, when deciding tough cases, he relied on the Aymaran tradition of "reading" coca leaves. "In moments when decisions must be taken, we turn to coca to guide us and show us the way."

Latest Religious Messages

• Two lawsuits filed in Los Angeles recently against the founding family of the religious Trinity Broadcasting Network allege that televangelists Paul and Jan Crouch have spent well over \$50 million of worshippers' donations on "personal" expenses, including 13 "mansions," his-and-hers private jets, and a \$100,000 mobile home for Mrs. Crouch's dogs. The jets are necessary, the Crouches' lawyer told the Los Angeles Times, because the Crouches receive more death threats than even the president of the United States. Allegedly, the Crouches keep millions of dollars in cash on hand, but according to their lawyer, that is merely out of obedience to the biblical principle of "ow(ing) no man anything."

• High-ranking Vatican administrator Cardinal Domenico Calcagno, 68, fired back at critics in April after an Italian website reported his extensive collection of guns and love of shooting. He told reporters that he owns only 13 weapons and that, "above all," he enjoys "repairing" them rather than shooting them (although, he admitted, "I used to go to shooting ranges").

Fine Points of Florida Law

(1) In April, the Tampa Police Department issued preliminary security guidelines to control areas around August's Republican National Convention in the city. Although the Secret Service will control the actual convention arena, Tampa Police are establishing a zone around the arena in which weapons will

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

be confiscated (including sticks, rocks, bottles and slingshots). Police would like to have banned firearms, too, but state law prevents cities from restricting the rights of licensed gun-carriers. (2) South Florida station WPLG-TV reported in March that vendors were openly selling, for about \$30, verbatim driver's license test questions and answers, on the street in front of DMV offices. However, when told about it, a DMV official shrugged, pointing out that test-takers still had to memorize them to pass the closed-book exam.

Questionable Judgments

• Perp's Remorse: (1) Jason Adkins was charged in March in Cynthiana, Ky., with stealing electronic equipment from the home of a friend. According to police, Adkins admitted the break-in but said he felt guilty the next day and returned the items. However, he then admitted breaking back into the home two days after that and re-stealing them. (2) Ivan Barker was sentenced in March in England's Stoke-on-Trent Magistrates Court for stealing a laptop computer and cigarettes from the home of a wheelchair-bound man of his acquaintance. Barker subsequently visited the man and apologized for the theft, but then, during that visit, Barker stole the man's new replacement laptop computer and more cigarettes.

• At a March town meeting in Embden, Maine, residents turned down proposals to rename its most notorious street "Katie Road." Thus, the name will remain, as it has for decades, "Katie Crotch Road." Some residents, in addition to being embarrassed by the name, also noted the cost of constantly replacing the street signs stolen by giggling visitors. (A Kennebec Journal report noted uncertainty about the name's origin. It might refer to how the road splits in two, forming a "Y" shape. On the low side, the name might refer to an early settler who would sit on her front porch without underwear.)

• Lumpkin County, Ga., judge David Bar-

rett, apparently frustrated by an alleged rape victim's reluctant testimony at a trial in February, blurted out in court that she was "killing her case (against the accused rapist)," and to dramatize the point, pulled out his own handgun and offered it to her, explaining that she might as well shoot her lawyer because the chances for conviction were dropping rapidly. (Five days later, following news reports, Barrett resigned.)

No Spectators Allowed

• For the first time in years, there was no Easter bunny at Central City Park in Macon, Ga., this year because the county commissioner who runs the sponsoring organization said he was tired of violent parents hogging the Easter egg hunt by "helping" their kids. (Two years ago, Olney High School in Philadelphia barred players' parents from its boys' junior varsity basketball games unless they registered and vowed to obey a code of conduct. In February 2012, the president of the Egyptian Football Association similarly announced that the season would continue but without spectators, because of the probability of violence. Of course, Egypt, unlike Macon, Ga., and Olney High School, has just been through a bloody civil war.)

Least Competent Criminals

Relentless: (1) In the early hours of Jan. 31, police in Gaston, N.C., were alerted to five burglaries in a two-block area that left shattered glass, broken doors and other damage, but no missing property. There was also a blood trail leading from one store, likely from a break-in boo-boo. (2) In March, England's Canterbury Crown Court heard the evidence against a gang of five who in August and September 2010 attempted to break into seven ATMs, using fancy power tools, but came away empty-handed each time. Brick walls were smashed around three machines, and twice explosives were used, resulting in fires. In each case, alarms were triggered, sending the men away prematurely, including once from an ATM that contained the equivalent of \$223,000.

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

MITT ROMNEY
MAN OF THE PEOPLE

WE ARE NOT SO VERY DIFFERENT, YOU AND I--

--EXCEPT THAT I'M RICH BEYOND DREAMS OF AVARICE!!

BOY! THERE WAS THIS ONE TIME, I GOT STUCK IN AN ELEVATOR--

--IN ONE OF MY WIFE'S MANY CADILLACS!!

LET ME REGALE YOU WITH AN AMUSING ANECDOTE--

--ABOUT PEOPLE GETTING FIRED!

THAT ONE NEVER GETS OLD.

MY TURN!

WHEN MITT AND I WERE YOUNG, WE WERE SO POOR--

--WE HAD TO LIVE OFF OUR INVESTMENT INCOME!!

WE WERE PRACTICALLY HOBOS!

HEH HEH HEH

OH FOR GOODNESS SALES--CAN'T WE JUST BUY THE WHITE HOUSE?

I DON'T THINK YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO SAY THAT OUT LOUD, DEAR.

MEANWHILE

YES, THAT'S RIGHT--I WAS BITTEN ... BY A PENGUIN!

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AN EVENING WITH LINDSEY BUCKINGHAM MAY 31 thu	DARK STAR ORCHESTRA JUN 02 sat
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THE CULT WITH AGAINST ME! JUN 09 sat	HAPPY TOGETHER THE TURTLES, MICKY DOLENZ THE GRASS ROOTS, GARY PUCKETT, AND UNION GAP JUN 24 sun
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CINDERELLA JUN 29 fri	COLLECTIVE SOUL JUN 30 sat
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RIGHTEOUS BROTHERS BILL MEDLEY JUL 01 sun	TESLA JUL 05 thu
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ZAPPA PLAYS ZAPPA JUL 06 fri	BADFISH! A TRIBUTE TO SUBLIME JUL 7 sat
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THE WAILERS JUL 13 fri	BILL BURR COMEDIAN JUL 14 sat
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KC & THE SUNSHINE BAND JUL 22 sun	JIM GAFFIGAN COMEDIAN JUL 28 sat
--	--

JOE WALSH AUG 10 fri	ROGER HODGSON THE VOICE OF SUPERTRAMP AUG 16 thu
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WANDA SYKES COMEDIAN AUG 17 fri	KENNY WAYNE SHEPHERD AUG 19 sun
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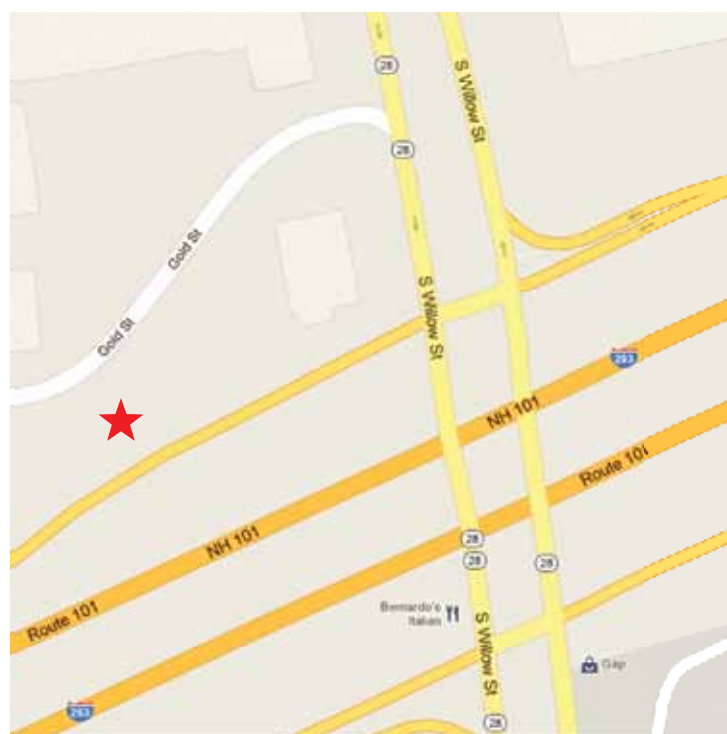
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